Senate



General Assembly

File No. 201

January Session, 2015

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1005

Senate, March 25, 2015

The Committee on Aging reported through SEN. FLEXER of the 29th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT PROTECTING ELDERLY CONSUMERS FROM EXPLOITATION AND ADOPTING THE CONNECTICUT UNIFORM POWER OF ATTORNEY ACT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. Section 17b-450 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):
- For purposes of this section and sections [17b-450] 17b-451 to 17b-
- 4 461, inclusive, as amended by this act, and sections 5 and 8 of this act:
- 5 [(1) The term "elderly person" means any resident of Connecticut
- 6 who is sixty years of age or older.]
- 7 (1) "Abandonment" means the desertion or wilful forsaking of an
- 8 elderly person by a caretaker or the foregoing of duties or the
- 9 withdrawal or neglect of duties and obligations owed an elderly
- 10 person by a caretaker or other person.
- 11 (2) "Abuse" includes, but is not limited to, the wilful infliction of

12 physical pain, injury or mental anguish, or the wilful deprivation by a

- 13 caretaker of services that are necessary to maintain physical and
- 14 mental health.
- 15 (3) "Caretaker" means a person who has the responsibility for the
- 16 care of an elderly person as a result of a family relationship or who has
- 17 assumed the responsibility for the care of the elderly person
- 18 voluntarily, by contract or by order of a court of competent
- 19 jurisdiction.
- 20 (4) "Elderly person" means any person who is sixty years of age or
- 21 older.
- 22 (5) "Exploitation" means the knowing use, control or possession of
- 23 funds, assets or property of an elderly person or the attempt to use,
- 24 control or possess such funds, assets or property, with the intent to
- 25 temporarily or permanently deprive such elderly person of the use,
- benefit or possession of such funds, assets or property by a person who
- 27 <u>stands in a position of trust and confidence with such elderly person.</u>
- 28 "Exploitation" may include, but is not limited to:
- 29 (A) A breach of a fiduciary relationship, such as the misuse of a
- 30 power of attorney or the abuse of a guardianship or conservatorship;
- 31 (B) Unauthorized taking of personal assets; or
- 32 (C) Misappropriation, misuse or transfer of moneys belonging to an
- 33 <u>elderly person from a personal or joint account.</u>
- 34 (6) "Person who stands in a position of trust and confidence" means
- 35 <u>a person who (A) knows or should know that an elderly person lacks</u>
- 36 the capacity to consent, or (B) by nature of such person's relationship
- 37 with such elderly person, deceives such elderly person into consenting
- 38 to the exploitation of such elderly person's funds, assets or property
- 39 with the intent to temporarily or permanently deprive such elderly
- 40 person of the use, benefit or possession of such funds, assets or
- 41 property for the benefit of a person other than such elderly person.

42 (7) "Financial agent" means an officer or employee of a financial institution, as defined in section 32-350, who:

- 44 (A) Has direct contact with an elderly person within the officer's or
 45 employee's scope of employment or professional practice and observes
 46 or has knowledge of an incident the officer or employee believes in
 47 good faith appears to be exploitation; or
- 48 (B) Reviews or approves an elderly person's financial documents,
 49 records or transactions and has a reasonable suspicion based on a
 50 pattern of withdrawals, transfers or other activity that exploitation has
 51 occurred or may be occurring, based solely on the information present
 52 at the time of reviewing or approving the document, record or
 53 transaction.
- 54 (8) "Neglect" means a caretaker's failure to provide services that are
 55 necessary to maintain an elderly person's physical or mental health or
 56 self-neglect by an elderly person who is not able to provide for himself
 57 or herself the services that are necessary to maintain physical and
 58 mental health.
- [(2) An elderly person shall be deemed to be "in need of protective services" if such person is]
- 61 (9) "Person in need of protective services" means a person who is the 62 suspected victim of abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment or is 63 unable to perform or obtain services [which] that are necessary to 64 maintain physical and mental health.
- [(3) The term "services which are necessary to maintain physical and mental health" includes, but is]
- 67 (10) "Services that are necessary to maintain physical and mental 68 health" include, but are not limited to, the provision of medical care for 69 physical and mental health needs, the relocation of an elderly person 70 to a facility or institution able to offer such care, assistance in personal 71 hygiene, food, clothing, adequately heated and ventilated shelter, 72 protection from health and safety hazards, protection from

maltreatment the result of which includes, but is not limited to, malnutrition, deprivation of necessities or physical punishment, and transportation necessary to secure any of the above stated needs, except that this term shall not include taking such person into custody without consent except as provided in sections 17b-450 to 17b-461, inclusive, as amended by this act.

- [(4) The term "protective services" means services provided by the state or other governmental or private organizations or individuals which are necessary to prevent abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment. Abuse includes, but is not limited to, the wilful infliction of physical pain, injury or mental anguish, or the wilful deprivation by a caretaker of services which are necessary to maintain physical and mental health. Neglect refers to an elderly person who is either living alone and not able to provide for himself or herself the services which are necessary to maintain physical and mental health or is not receiving such necessary services from the responsible caretaker. Exploitation refers to the act or process of taking advantage of an elderly person by another person or caretaker whether for monetary, personal or other benefit, gain or profit. Abandonment refers to the desertion or wilful forsaking of an elderly person by a caretaker or the foregoing of duties or the withdrawal or neglect of duties and obligations owed an elderly person by a caretaker or other person.
- 95 (5) The term "caretaker" means a person who has the responsibility 96 for the care of an elderly person as a result of family relationship or 97 who has assumed the responsibility for the care of the elderly 98 voluntarily, by contract or by order of a court of competent 99 jurisdiction.]
- 100 (11) "Protective services" means services provided by the state or 101 other governmental or private organizations or individuals that are 102 necessary to prevent abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment.
- Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 17b-451 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective* 105 October 1, 2015):

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(a) [Any physician] For purposes of this subsection, "mandated reporter" means a: (1) Physician or surgeon licensed under the provisions of chapter 370; [, any] (2) resident physician or intern in any hospital in this state, whether or not so licensed; [, any] (3) registered nurse; [, any] (4) nursing home administrator, nurse's aide or orderly in a nursing home facility or residential care home; [, any] (5) financial agent, as defined in section 17b-450, as amended by this act; (6) person paid for caring for a patient in a nursing home facility or residential care home; [, any] (7) staff person employed by a nursing home facility or residential care home; [, any] (8) professional patients' advocate, [any] provided no representative of the Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman shall be considered a professional patients' advocate for purposes of this section; (9) licensed practical nurse; [,] (10) medical examiner; [,] (11) dentist; [,] (12) optometrist; [,] (13) chiropractor; [,] (14) podiatrist; [,] (15) social worker; [,] (16) clergyman; [,] (17) police officer; [,] (18) pharmacist; [,] (19) psychologist; [or] (20) physical therapist; [,] (21) person licensed or certified as an emergency medical services provider pursuant to chapter 368d or chapter 384d, including any such emergency medical services provider who is a member of a municipal fire department; and [any] (22) person paid for caring for an elderly person by any institution, organization, agency or facility, [. Such persons shall include] including, but not limited to, an employee of a (A) community-based services provider, (B) senior center, (C) home care agency, (D) homemaker and companion agency, (E) adult day care center, (F) village-model community, and (G) congregate housing facility. [,] Any mandated reporter who has reasonable cause to suspect or believe that any elderly person has been abused, neglected, exploited or abandoned, or is in a condition that is the result of such abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment, or is in need of protective services, shall [, not later than seventy-two hours after such suspicion or belief arose,] report such information, or cause a report to be made in any reasonable manner, not later than seventytwo hours after such suspicion or belief arose to the Commissioner of Social Services or to the person or persons designated by the commissioner to receive such reports. Any [person required to report

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141 under the provisions of this section] mandated reporter who fails to 142 make such report within the prescribed time period shall be fined not 143 more than five hundred dollars, except that, if such [person] mandated 144 reporter intentionally fails to make such report within the prescribed 145 time period, such person shall be guilty of a class C misdemeanor for 146 the first offense and a class A misdemeanor for any subsequent 147 offense. Any institution, organization, agency or facility employing 148 mandated reporters or other individuals to care for persons sixty years 149 of age or older shall provide mandatory training on detecting potential 150 abuse, [and] neglect, exploitation or abandonment of such persons and 151 inform such employees of their obligations under this section.

- Sec. 3. Section 53a-119 of the general statutes is amended by adding subdivision (19) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2015*):
- (NEW) (19) Exploitation. A person commits exploitation when such person stands in a position of trust and confidence with an elderly person and knowingly uses, controls or possesses such elderly person's funds, assets or property, or attempts to use, control or possess such funds, assets or property, with the intent to temporarily or permanently deprive such elderly person of the use, benefit or possession of such funds, assets or property.
- Sec. 4. Subsection (a) of section 53a-123 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):
 - (a) A person is guilty of larceny in the second degree when he commits larceny, as defined in section 53a-119, as amended by this act, and: (1) The property consists of a motor vehicle, the value of which exceeds ten thousand dollars; [,] (2) the value of the property or service exceeds ten thousand dollars; [,] (3) the property, regardless of its nature or value, is taken from the person of another; [,] (4) the property is obtained by defrauding a public community, and the value of such property is two thousand dollars or less; [,] (5) the property, regardless of its nature or value, is obtained by embezzlement, exploitation, as defined in section 53a-119, as amended by this act, false pretenses or

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false promise and the victim of such larceny is sixty years of age or older or is blind or physically disabled, as defined in section 1-1f; [,] or (6) the property, regardless of its value, consists of wire, cable or other equipment used in the provision of telecommunications service and the taking of such property causes an interruption in the provision of emergency telecommunications service.

- Sec. 5. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2015) (a) An elderly person who has been abused, neglected or exploited, as such terms are defined in section 17b-450 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, may have a cause of action against any perpetrator and may recover actual and punitive damages for such abuse, neglect or exploitation together with costs and a reasonable attorney's fee. The action may be brought by the elderly person, or the elderly person's guardian or conservator, by a person or organization acting on behalf of the elderly person with the consent of such elderly person or the elderly person's guardian or conservator or by the personal representative of the estate of a deceased elderly victim without regard to whether the cause of death resulted from the abuse, neglect or exploitation.
- (b) An elderly person age sixty-five and older who brings a civil action under this section may move the court to advance the trial on the docket pursuant to section 52-192 of the general statutes. The presiding judge, after consideration of the age and health of the party, may advance the trial on the docket.
- Sec. 6. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2015) At any time in any prosecution for larceny by exploitation, as defined in section 53a-119 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, the Superior Court shall have jurisdiction to render an order prohibiting the defendant from transferring, depleting or otherwise alienating or diminishing any funds, assets or property which there is probable cause to believe is being used or is about to be used in any way that would constitute exploitation. The burden of proof shall be by a preponderance of the evidence and shall be on the state. A copy of the order shall be served upon the defendant. At any time not later than thirty days after service

of the order, the defendant or any person claiming an interest in the funds, assets or property may file a motion to release the funds, assets or property. The court shall hold a hearing on the motion not later than ten days after the motion is filed. If the prosecution of the charge is dismissed, nolled or results in acquittal, the court shall vacate the order.

- Sec. 7. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2015) (a) (1) A person finally adjudged guilty, either as the principal or accessory, of the crime of larceny by exploitation, as defined in section 53a-119 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, shall not inherit or receive any part of the estate of the victim, whether under the provisions of any act relating to intestate succession, or as devisee or legatee, or otherwise under the will of the deceased, or receive any property as beneficiary or survivor of the deceased. For the purposes of this subdivision, an interested person may bring an action in the Superior Court for a determination, by a preponderance of the evidence, that an heir, devisee, legatee or beneficiary of the deceased who has predeceased the interested person would have been adjudged guilty, either as the principal or accessory, of exploitation had the heir, devisee, legatee or beneficiary survived.
- (2) With respect to inheritance under the will of the deceased, or rights to property as heir, devisee, legatee or beneficiary of the deceased, the person whose participation in the estate of another or whose right to property as such heir, devisee, legatee or beneficiary is so prevented under the provisions of this section shall be considered to have predeceased the deceased victim.
- (3) With respect to property owned in joint tenancy with rights of survivorship with the deceased, such final adjudication as guilty shall be a severance of the joint tenancy, and shall convert the joint tenancy into a tenancy in common as to the person so adjudged and the deceased but not as to any remaining joint tenant or tenants, such severance being effective as of the time such adjudication of guilty becomes final. When such jointly owned property is real property, a

certified copy of the final adjudication as guilty shall be recorded by

- the fiduciary of the deceased's estate, or may be recorded by any other
- 242 interested party in the land records of the town where such real
- 243 property is situated.
- (b) (1) A named beneficiary of a life insurance policy or annuity who
- is adjudged guilty of larceny by exploitation against the holder of such
- 246 policy or annuity is not entitled to any benefit under the policy or
- 247 annuity, and the policy or annuity becomes payable as though such
- beneficiary had predeceased the decedent.
- 249 (2) (A) A conviction of larceny by exploitation shall be conclusive
- 250 for the purposes of this subsection.
- 251 (B) For the purposes of this subsection, an interested person may
- 252 bring an action in the Superior Court for a determination, by a
- 253 preponderance of the evidence, that a named beneficiary who has
- 254 predeceased the interested person would have been found guilty of
- 255 larceny by exploitation had the named beneficiary survived.
- 256 (C) In the absence of such a conviction or determination, the
- 257 Superior Court may determine by the common law, including equity,
- 258 whether the named beneficiary is entitled to any benefit under the
- 259 policy or annuity.
- 260 (D) In any proceeding brought under this subsection, the burden of
- 261 proof shall be upon the person challenging the eligibility of the named
- beneficiary for benefits under a life insurance policy or annuity.
- 263 (3) Any insurance company making payment according to the terms
- 264 of its policy or annuity is not liable for any additional payment by
- 265 reason of this section unless it has received at its home office or
- 266 principal address written notice of a claim under this section prior to
- such payment.
- Sec. 8. (Effective October 1, 2015) (a) The Commission on Aging, in
- 269 consultation with the Connecticut Elder Justice Coalition Coordinating
- 270 Council, the Department of Social Services, the Department on Aging,

271 the Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman and the Chief State's 272 Attorney, shall conduct a study concerning best practices for reporting 273 and identification of the abuse, neglect, exploitation and abandonment 274 of elderly persons. The study shall review: (1) Models nationwide for 275 reporting of such abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment, (2) 276 standardized definitions, measurements and uniform reporting 277 mechanisms to accurately capture the nature and scope of such abuse, 278 neglect, exploitation or abandonment in the state, and (3) methods to 279 promote and coordinate communication about such reporting among 280 local and state governmental entities, including law enforcement.

- (b) Not later than January 1, 2016, the Commission on Aging shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to aging on the results of the study conducted pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.
- Sec. 9. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2015*) Sections 9 to 53, inclusive, of this act may be cited as the "Connecticut Uniform Power of Attorney Act."
- Sec. 10. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2015*) As used in sections 9 to 53, inclusive, of this act:
- 291 (1) "Agent" means a person granted authority to act for a principal 292 under a power of attorney, whether denominated an agent, attorney in 293 fact, or otherwise. Agent includes an original agent, coagent, successor 294 agent and a person to which an agent's authority is delegated.
- 295 (2) "Durable" means, with respect to a power of attorney, not terminated by the principal's incapacity.
- 297 (3) "Electronic" means relating to technology having electrical, 298 digital, magnetic, wireless, optical, electromagnetic or similar 299 capabilities.
- 300 (4) "Good faith" means honesty in fact.

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(5) "Incapacity" means inability of an individual, even with appropriate assistance, to perform the functions inherent in managing his or her affairs because the individual:

- (A) Has a mental, emotional or physical condition that results in the individual being unable to receive and evaluate information or make or communicate decisions; or
- 307 (B) Is:

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- 308 (i) Missing;
- 309 (ii) Detained, including incarcerated in a penal system; or
- 310 (iii) Outside the United States and unable to return.
- 311 (6) "Person" means an individual, corporation, business trust, estate, 312 trust, partnership, limited liability company, association, joint venture, 313 public corporation, government or governmental subdivision, agency, 314 or instrumentality or any other legal or commercial entity.
- 315 (7) "Power of attorney" means a writing or other record that grants 316 authority to an agent to act in the place of the principal, whether or not 317 the term power of attorney is used.
 - (8) "Presently exercisable general power of appointment" means, with respect to property or a property interest subject to a power of appointment, power exercisable at the time in question to vest absolute ownership in the principal individually, the principal's estate, the principal's creditors or the creditors of the principal's estate. The term includes a power of appointment not exercisable until the occurrence of a specified event, the satisfaction of an ascertainable standard, or the passage of a specified period only after the occurrence of the specified event, the satisfaction of the ascertainable standard, or the passage of the specified period. The term does not include a power exercisable in a fiduciary capacity or only by will.
 - (9) "Principal" means an individual who grants authority to an agent

- in a power of attorney.
- 331 (10) "Property" means anything that may be the subject of
- ownership, whether real or personal, or legal or equitable, or any
- interest or right therein.
- 334 (11) "Record" means information that is inscribed on a tangible
- 335 medium or that is stored in an electronic or other medium and is
- retrievable in perceivable form.
- 337 (12) "Sign" means, with present intent to authenticate or adopt a
- 338 record to:
- (A) Execute or adopt a tangible symbol; or
- 340 (B) Attach to or logically associate with the record an electronic
- 341 sound, symbol or process.
- 342 (13) "State" means a state of the United States, the District of
- 343 Columbia, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands or any
- 344 territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United
- 345 States.
- 346 (14) "Stocks and bonds" means stocks, bonds, mutual funds, and all
- 347 other types of securities and financial instruments, whether held
- 348 directly, indirectly or in any other manner. "Stocks and bonds" does
- 349 not include commodity futures contracts and call or put options on
- 350 stocks or stock indexes.
- Sec. 11. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2015) The provisions of sections 9
- to 53, inclusive, of this act apply to all powers of attorney except:
- 353 (1) A power to the extent it is coupled with an interest in the subject
- of the power, including a power given to or for the benefit of a creditor
- in connection with a credit transaction;
- 356 (2) A power to make health care decisions;
- 357 (3) A proxy or other delegation to exercise voting rights or

- 358 management rights with respect to an entity; and
- 359 (4) A power created on a form prescribed by a government or
- 360 governmental subdivision, agency or instrumentality for a
- 361 governmental purpose.
- Sec. 12. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2015) A power of attorney
- 363 created under sections 9 to 53, inclusive, of this act is durable unless it
- 364 expressly provides that it is terminated by the incapacity of the
- 365 principal.
- Sec. 13. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2015) A power of attorney must
- 367 be dated and signed by the principal or in the principal's conscious
- 368 presence by another individual directed by the principal to sign the
- 369 principal's name on the power of attorney and witnessed by two
- witnesses. A signature on a power of attorney is presumed to be
- 371 genuine if the principal acknowledges the signature before a notary
- 372 public or other individual authorized by law to take
- 373 acknowledgments.
- Sec. 14. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2015) (a) A power of attorney
- 375 executed in this state on or after October 1, 2015, is valid if its
- 376 execution complies with section 13 of this act.
- 377 (b) A power of attorney executed in this state before October 1, 2015,
- 378 is valid if its execution complied with the law of this state as it existed
- 379 at the time of execution.
- 380 (c) A power of attorney executed other than in this state is valid in
- 381 this state if, when the power of attorney was executed, the execution
- 382 complied with:
- 383 (1) The law of the jurisdiction that determines the meaning and
- 384 effect of the power of attorney pursuant to section 15 of this act; or
- 385 (2) The requirements for a military power of attorney pursuant to 10
- 386 USC 1044b, as amended from time to time.

(d) Except as otherwise provided by statute, other than sections 9 to 53, inclusive, of this act, or unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, a photocopy or electronically transmitted copy of an original power of attorney has the same effect as the original.

- Sec. 15. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2015*) The meaning and effect of a power of attorney is determined by the law of the jurisdiction indicated in the power of attorney and, in the absence of an indication of jurisdiction, by the law of the jurisdiction in which the power of attorney was executed.
- Sec. 16. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2015*) (a) In a power of attorney, a principal may nominate a conservator of the principal's estate or conservator of the principal's person for consideration by the court if protective proceedings for the principal's estate or person are begun after the principal executes the power of attorney. The court shall make its appointment in accordance with the principal's most recent nomination unless the court finds that the appointee, designee or nominee is unwilling or unable to serve or there is substantial evidence to disqualify such person.
- (b) If, after a principal executes a power of attorney, a court appoints a conservator of the principal's estate or other fiduciary charged with the management of some or all of the principal's property, the power of attorney is suspended unless the power of attorney provides otherwise or unless the court appointing the conservator decides the power of attorney should continue. If the power of attorney continues, the agent is accountable to the fiduciary as well as to the principal. If the power of attorney is suspended pursuant to this subsection, then the power of attorney shall be reinstated upon termination of the conservatorship as a result of the principal regaining capacity. The court shall have the authority to continue certain provisions of the power of attorney, but not others.
- Sec. 17. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2015*) (a) A power of attorney is effective when executed unless the principal provides in the power of attorney that it becomes effective at a future date or upon the

420 occurrence of a future event or contingency.

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421 (b) If a power of attorney becomes effective upon the occurrence of a 422 future event or contingency, the principal, in the power of attorney, 423 may authorize one or more persons to determine in a writing or other 424 record that the event or contingency has occurred.

- (c) If a power of attorney becomes effective upon the principal's incapacity and the principal has not authorized a person to determine whether the principal is incapacitated, or the person authorized is unable or unwilling to make the determination, the power of attorney becomes effective upon a determination in a writing or other record by:
- 431 (1) Two independent physicians that the principal is incapacitated 432 within the meaning set forth in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (5) of 433 section 10 of this act; or
- 434 (2) A judge or an appropriate governmental official that the 435 principal is incapacitated within the meaning set forth in 436 subparagraph (B) of subdivision (5) of section 10 of this act.
 - (d) A person authorized by the principal in the power of attorney to determine that the principal is incapacitated may act as the principal's personal representative pursuant to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, Sections 1171 to 1179, inclusive, of the Social Security Act, 42 USC 1320d, as amended from time to time, and applicable federal regulations, to obtain access to the principal's health care information and communicate with the principal's health care provider.
 - (e) If the principal, in the power of attorney, authorizes one or more persons to determine in a written affidavit that the event or contingency has occurred, as provided in subsection (b) of this section, then the written affidavit may be in substantially the following form:

449 AFFIDAVIT THAT POWER OF ATTORNEY IS IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT

451	STATE OF)
452) SS:
453	COUNTY OF)
454	I, of, being duly sworn, depose and say:
455 456 457	THAT, of, as principal, did on, 20, appoint me in a power of attorney dated, 20, to execute an affidavit that a specified contingency had occurred;
458	THAT specified contingency was:
459	THAT specified contingency has occurred.
460	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal.
461	L.S.
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463	Witness
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465	Witness
466	Subscribed and sworn to before me this day of, 20
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468	Commissioner of the Superior Court
469	Notary Public
470	My commission expires:
471 472	Sec. 18. (NEW) (<i>Effective October 1, 2015</i>) (a) A power of attorney terminates when:
473	(1) The principal dies;

474 (2) The principal becomes incapacitated, if the power of attorney is 475 not durable;

- 476 (3) The principal revokes the power of attorney;
- 477 (4) The power of attorney provides that it terminates;
- 478 (5) The purpose of the power of attorney is accomplished;
- (6) The principal revokes the agent's authority or the agent dies, becomes incapacitated, or resigns and the power of attorney does not provide for another agent to act under the power of attorney; or
- 482 (7) The power of attorney is terminated by a court pursuant to subsection (b) of section 16 of this act.
- (b) An agent's authority terminates when:
- 485 (1) The principal revokes the authority;
- 486 (2) A court terminates the agent's authority pursuant to subsection 487 (b) of section 16 of this act;
- 488 (3) The agent dies or resigns;
- 489 (4) The agent becomes incapacitated. Unless the power of attorney 490 otherwise provides, an agent shall be determined to be incapable of 491 acting as an agent upon a determination in a writing or other record 492 that the agent is incapacitated:
- (A) Within the meaning set forth in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (5) of section 10 of this act, by:
- 495 (i) A judge in a court proceeding;
- 496 (ii) Two independent physicians; or
- (iii) A successor agent, designated in accordance with section 19 of this act, if a written opinion of a physician cannot be obtained either due to the refusal of an agent to be examined by a physician or due to

an agent's failure to execute an authorization to release medical information; or

- (B) Within the meaning set forth in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (5) of section 10 of this act, a judge or an appropriate governmental official;
- 505 (5) An action is filed for the dissolution or annulment of the agent's 506 marriage to the principal or their legal separation, unless the power of 507 attorney otherwise provides; or
- 508 (6) The power of attorney terminates.
- (c) Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, an agent's authority is exercisable until the authority terminates under subsection (b) of this section, notwithstanding a lapse of time since the execution of the power of attorney.
- (d) Termination of an agent's authority or of a power of attorney is not effective as to the agent or another person that, without actual knowledge of the termination, acts in good faith under the power of attorney. An act so performed, unless otherwise invalid or unenforceable, binds the principal and the principal's successors in interest.
 - (e) Incapacity of the principal of a power of attorney that is not durable does not revoke or terminate the power of attorney as to an agent or other person that, without actual knowledge of the incapacity, acts in good faith under the power of attorney. An act so performed, unless otherwise invalid or unenforceable, binds the principal and the principal's successors in interest.
 - (f) The execution of a power of attorney does not revoke a power of attorney previously executed by the principal unless the subsequent power of attorney provides that the previous power of attorney is revoked or that all other powers of attorney are revoked.
- Sec. 19. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2015) (a) A principal may

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designate two or more persons to act as coagents. Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, each coagent may exercise its authority independently. A person that in good faith accepts an acknowledged power of attorney from one or more coagents without actual knowledge that the power of attorney is void, invalid or terminated, that the purported agent's authority is void, invalid or terminated, or that the agent is exceeding or improperly exercising the agent's authority may rely upon the power of attorney as if the power of attorney were genuine, valid and still in effect, the agent's authority were genuine, valid and still in effect, and the agent had not exceeded and had properly exercised the authority.

- (b) A principal may designate one or more successor agents to act if an agent resigns, dies, becomes incapacitated, is not qualified to serve or declines to serve. A principal may grant authority to designate one or more successor agents to an agent or other person designated by name, office or function. Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, a successor agent:
- 547 (1) Has the same authority as that granted to the original agent; and
- 548 (2) May not act until all predecessor agents have resigned, died, 549 become incapacitated, are no longer qualified to serve or have declined 550 to serve.
 - (c) Except as otherwise provided in the power of attorney and subsection (d) of this section, an agent that does not participate in or conceal a breach of fiduciary duty committed by another agent, including a predecessor agent, is not liable for the actions of the other agent.
 - (d) Except as otherwise provided in the power of attorney, an agent that has actual knowledge of a breach or imminent breach of fiduciary duty by another agent shall notify the principal and, if the principal is incapacitated, take any action reasonably appropriate in the circumstances to safeguard the principal's best interest. An agent that fails to notify the principal or take action as required by this subsection

is liable for the reasonably foreseeable damages that could have been avoided if the agent had notified the principal or taken such action.

- Sec. 20. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2015*) Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, an agent is entitled to reimbursement of expenses reasonably incurred on behalf of the principal and to compensation that is reasonable under the circumstances.
- Sec. 21. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2015*) Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, a person accepts appointment as an agent under a power of attorney by exercising authority or performing duties as an agent or by any other assertion or conduct indicating acceptance.
- Sec. 22. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2015*) (a) Notwithstanding provisions in the power of attorney, an agent that has accepted appointment shall:
- 576 (1) Act in accordance with the principal's reasonable expectations, 577 and, if such expectations are unknown, make reasonable efforts to 578 ascertain the principal's expectations and act, otherwise, in the 579 principal's best interest;
- 580 (2) Act in good faith; and
- 581 (3) Act only within the scope of authority granted in the power of attorney.
- 583 (b) Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, an agent that 584 has accepted appointment shall:
- 585 (1) Act loyally for the principal's benefit;
- 586 (2) Act so as not to create a conflict of interest that impairs the agent's ability to act impartially in the principal's best interest;
- 588 (3) Act with the care, competence and diligence ordinarily exercised by agents in similar circumstances;

590 (4) Keep a record of all receipts, disbursements and transactions 591 made on behalf of the principal;

- (5) Cooperate with a person that has authority to make health care decisions for the principal to carry out the principal's reasonable expectations to the extent actually known by the agent and, otherwise, act in the principal's best interest; and
- 596 (6) Attempt to preserve the principal's estate plan, to the extent 597 actually known by the agent, if preserving the plan is consistent with 598 the principal's best interest based on all relevant factors, including:
- 599 (A) The value and nature of the principal's property;

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- 600 (B) The principal's foreseeable obligations and need for 601 maintenance;
- 602 (C) Minimization of taxes, including income, estate, inheritance, 603 generation skipping transfer and gift taxes; and
- 604 (D) Eligibility for a benefit, a program or assistance under a federal 605 or state statute or regulation.
 - (c) An agent that acts in good faith is not liable to any beneficiary of the principal's estate plan for failure to preserve the plan.
- (d) An agent that acts with care, competence and diligence for the best interest of the principal is not liable solely because the agent also benefits from the act or has an individual or conflicting interest in relation to the property or affairs of the principal.
- (e) If an agent is selected by the principal because of special skills or expertise possessed by the agent or in reliance on the agent's representation that the agent has special skills or expertise, the special skills or expertise must be considered in determining whether the agent has acted with care, competence and diligence under the circumstances.
- (f) Absent a breach of duty to the principal, an agent is not liable if

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- (g) An agent that exercises authority to delegate to another person the authority granted by the principal or that engages another person on behalf of the principal is not liable for an act, error of judgment or default of that person if the agent exercises care, competence and diligence in selecting and monitoring the person.
 - (h) Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, an agent is not required to disclose receipts, disbursements or transactions conducted on behalf of the principal unless ordered by a court or requested by the principal, a guardian, a conservator, another fiduciary acting for the principal, a representative of the Division of Protective Services for the Elderly within the Department of Social Services having authority to protect the welfare of the principal or, upon the death of the principal, by the personal representative or successor in interest of the principal's estate. If so requested, the agent shall comply with the request not later than thirty days after the date of such request or provide a writing or other record substantiating why additional time is needed, in which case, the agent shall comply with the request not later than thirty days after the date of providing such writing or record.
 - Sec. 23. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2015*) A provision in a power of attorney relieving an agent of liability for breach of duty is binding on the principal and the principal's successors in interest except to the extent the provision:
- (1) Relieves the agent of liability for breach of duty committed dishonestly, with an improper motive or with reckless indifference to the purposes of the power of attorney or the best interest of the principal; or
- 646 (2) Was inserted as a result of an abuse of a confidential or fiduciary 647 relationship with the principal.
- Sec. 24. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2015*) (a) The following persons may petition a court in accordance with subsection (d) of section 45a-

650 175 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, to construe a power

- of attorney or review the agent's conduct, and grant appropriate relief:
- (1) The principal or the agent;
- 653 (2) A guardian, conservator or other fiduciary acting for the 654 principal;
- 655 (3) A person authorized to make health care decisions for the 656 principal;
- (4) The principal's spouse, parent or descendant;
- (5) An individual who would qualify as a presumptive heir of the principal;
- 660 (6) A person named as a beneficiary to receive any property, benefit 661 or contractual right on the principal's death or as a beneficiary of a 662 trust created by or for the principal that has a financial interest in the
- 663 principal's estate;
- (7) A representative of the Division of Protective Services for the Elderly with the Department of Social Services having regulatory authority to protect the welfare of the principal;
- (8) The principal's caregiver or another person that demonstrates sufficient interest in the principal's welfare; and
- (9) A person asked to accept the power of attorney.
- (b) Upon motion by the principal, the court shall dismiss a petition
- 671 filed under this section, unless the court finds that the principal is
- 672 incapacitated within the meaning set forth in subdivision (5) of section
- 673 10 of this act.
- Sec. 25. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2015) An agent that violates
- sections 9 to 53, inclusive, of this act is liable to the principal or the
- 676 principal's successors in interest for the amount required to:

(1) Restore the value of the principal's property to what it would have been had the violation not occurred; and

- 679 (2) Reimburse the principal or the principal's successors in interest 680 for the reasonable attorney's fees and costs paid on the agent's behalf.
- Sec. 26. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2015) Unless the power of
- attorney provides a different method for an agent's resignation, an
- agent may resign by giving notice to the principal and, if the principal
- 684 is incapacitated:
- (1) To the conservator of the estate, the conservator of the person
- and guardian, if one has been appointed for the principal, and a
- 687 coagent or successor agent; or
- 688 (2) If there is no person described in subdivision (1) of this section,
- 689 to:
- 690 (A) The principal's spouse and children, if any, or a person
- 691 reasonably believed by the agent to have sufficient interest in the
- 692 principal's welfare; or
- (B) A representative of the Division of Protective Services for the
- 694 Elderly within the Department of Social Services having authority to
- 695 protect the welfare of the principal.
- 696 Sec. 27. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2015) (a) For purposes of this
- section and section 28 of this act, "acknowledged" means purportedly
- 698 verified before a notary public or other individual authorized to take
- 699 acknowledgements.
- 700 (b) A person that in good faith accepts an acknowledged power of
- attorney without actual knowledge that the signature is not genuine
- may rely upon the presumption under section 13 of this act that the
- signature is genuine.
- (c) A person that in good faith accepts an acknowledged power of
- attorney without actual knowledge that the power of attorney is void,

invalid, or terminated, that the purported agent's authority is void, invalid, or terminated, or that the agent is exceeding or improperly exercising the agent's authority may rely upon the power of attorney as if the power of attorney were genuine, valid and still in effect, the agent's authority were genuine, valid and still in effect, and the agent had not exceeded and had properly exercised the authority.

- 712 (d) A person that is asked to accept an acknowledged power of 713 attorney may request, and rely upon, without further investigation:
- 714 (1) An agent's certification under penalty of perjury of any factual 715 matter concerning the principal, agent or power of attorney;
- 716 (2) An English translation of the power of attorney if the power of 717 attorney contains, in whole or in part, language other than English; 718 and
- 719 (3) An opinion of counsel as to any matter of law concerning the 720 power of attorney if the person making the request provides in a 721 writing or other record the reason for the request.
 - (e) An English translation or an opinion of counsel requested under this section must be provided at the principal's expense unless the request is made more than seven business days after the power of attorney is presented for acceptance.
- 726 (f) For purposes of this section and section 28 of this act, a person 727 that conducts activities through an employee is without actual 728 knowledge of a fact relating to: (1) A power of attorney, (2) a principal, 729 or (3) an agent if the employee conducting the activity involving such 730 power of attorney, principal or agent is without actual knowledge of the fact.
- 732 Sec. 28. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2015) (a) Except as provided in 733 subsection (b) of this section:
- 734 (1) A person shall either accept an acknowledged power of attorney 735 or request a certification a translation, or an opinion of counsel under

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subsection (d) of section 27 of this act not later than seven business days after presentation of the power of attorney for acceptance;

- (2) If a person requests a certification, a translation, or an opinion of counsel under subsection (d) of section 27 of this act, the person shall accept the power of attorney not later than five business days after receipt of the certification, translation, or opinion of counsel; and
- 742 (3) A person may not require an additional or different form of 743 power of attorney for authority granted in the power of attorney 744 presented.
- 745 (b) A person is not required to accept an acknowledged power of 746 attorney if:
- 747 (1) The principal is not otherwise eligible or is not otherwise qualified to enter the transaction with the person;
- 749 (2) Engaging in a transaction with the agent or the principal in the same circumstances would be inconsistent with state or federal law;
- 751 (3) The person has actual knowledge of the termination of the 752 agent's authority or of the power of attorney before exercise of the 753 power;
- 754 (4) A request for a certification, a translation, or an opinion of counsel under subsection (d) of section 27 of this act is refused;
- (5) The person in good faith believes that the power is not valid or that the agent does not have the authority to perform the act requested, whether or not a certification, a translation, or an opinion of counsel under subsection (d) of section 27 of this act has been requested or provided; or
 - (6) The person makes, or has actual knowledge that another person has made, a report to the Bureau of Aging, Community and Social Work Services Division of the Department of Social Services stating a good faith belief that the principal may be subject to physical or

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financial abuse, neglect, exploitation or abandonment by the agent or a person acting for or with the agent.

- (c) A person that refuses in violation of this section to accept an acknowledged power of attorney is subject to an order by a probate court or by a court of general jurisdiction mandating acceptance of the power of attorney. The court may award reasonable attorney's fees and costs incurred to the prevailing party in such action.
- Sec. 29. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2015*) Unless displaced by a provision of sections 9 to 53, inclusive, of this act, the principles of law and equity supplement the provisions of sections 9 to 53, inclusive, of this act.
- Sec. 30. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2015*) The provisions of sections 9 to 53, inclusive, of this act do not supersede any other law applicable to financial institutions or other entities, and the other law controls if inconsistent with the provisions of sections 9 to 53, inclusive, of this act.
- Sec. 31. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2015*) The remedies under sections 9 to 53, inclusive, of this act are not exclusive and do not abrogate any right or remedy under the law of this state, other than sections 9 to 53, inclusive, of this act.
- Sec. 32. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2015*) (a) An agent under a power of attorney may perform the activities listed in this subsection on behalf of the principal or with the principal's property only if the power of attorney expressly grants the agent the authority to perform such activities and exercise of the authority to perform such activities is not otherwise prohibited by another agreement or instrument to which the authority or property is subject such as a trust agreement:
- 792 (1) Create, amend, revoke, or terminate an inter vivos trust;
- 793 (2) Make a gift;
- 794 (3) Create or change rights of survivorship;

- 795 (4) Create or change a beneficiary designation;
- 796 (5) Delegate authority granted under the power of attorney;
- 797 (6) Waive the principal's right to be a beneficiary of a joint and survivor annuity, including a survivor benefit under a retirement plan;
- 799 (7) Exercise fiduciary powers that the principal has authority to delegate; or
- 801 (8) Disclaim property, including a power of appointment.
- 802 (b) Notwithstanding a grant of authority to perform an act 803 described in subsection (a) of this section, unless the power of attorney 804 otherwise provides, an agent that is not an ancestor, spouse or 805 descendant of the principal may not exercise authority under a power 806 of attorney to create in the agent, or in an individual to whom the 807 agent owes a legal obligation of support, an interest in the principal's 808 property, whether by gift, right of survivorship, beneficiary 809 designation, disclaimer or otherwise.
- (c) Subject to the provisions set forth in subsections (a), (b), (d) and (e) of this section, if a power of attorney grants to an agent authority to perform all acts that a principal could perform, the agent has the general authority described in sections 35 to 47, inclusive, of this act.
 - (d) Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, a grant of authority to make a gift is subject to section 48 of this act.
- (e) Subject to the provisions set forth in subsections (a), (b) and (d) of this section, if the subjects over which authority is granted in a power of attorney are similar or overlap, the broadest authority controls.
 - (f) Authority granted in a power of attorney is exercisable with respect to property that the principal has when the power of attorney is executed or acquires later, whether or not the property is located in this state and whether or not the authority is exercised or the power of

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- attorney is executed in this state.
- (g) An act performed by an agent pursuant to a power of attorney
- has the same effect and inures to the benefit of and binds the principal
- 827 and the principal's successors in interest as if the principal had
- 828 performed the act.
- Sec. 33. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2015) (a) An agent has authority
- 830 described in sections 32 to 48, inclusive, of this act if the power of
- attorney refers to general authority with respect to the descriptive term
- for the subjects stated in sections 35 to 48, inclusive, of this act or cites
- the section in which the authority is described.
- (b) A reference in a power of attorney to general authority with
- 835 respect to the descriptive term for a subject in sections 35 to 48,
- 836 inclusive, of this act or a citation to a section of sections 35 to 48,
- inclusive, of this act incorporates the entire section as if it were set out
- 838 in full in the power of attorney.
- (c) A principal may modify authority incorporated by reference.
- Sec. 34. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2015) Unless the power of
- 841 attorney otherwise provides, by executing a power of attorney that
- s42 incorporates by reference a subject described in sections 35 to 48,
- inclusive, of this act or that grants to an agent authority to perform all
- acts that a principal could perform pursuant to subsection (c) of section
- 845 32 of this act, a principal authorizes the agent, with respect to that
- 846 subject, to:
- 847 (1) Demand, receive, and obtain by litigation or otherwise, money or
- another thing of value to which the principal is, may become, or claims
- 849 to be entitled, and conserve, invest, disburse or use anything so
- 850 received or obtained for the purposes intended;
- 851 (2) Contract in any manner with any person, on terms agreeable to
- 852 the agent, to accomplish a purpose of a transaction and perform,
- 853 rescind, cancel, terminate, reform, restate, release or modify the
- contract or another contract made by or on behalf of the principal;

(3) Execute, acknowledge, seal, deliver, file or record any instrument or communication the agent considers desirable to accomplish a purpose of a transaction, including creating at any time a schedule listing some or all of the principal's property and attaching it to the power of attorney;

- (4) Initiate, participate in, submit to alternative dispute resolution, settle, oppose or propose or accept a compromise with respect to a claim existing in favor of or against the principal or intervene in litigation relating to the claim;
- (5) Seek on the principal's behalf the assistance of a court or other governmental agency to carry out an act authorized in the power of attorney;
- 867 (6) Engage, compensate and discharge an attorney, accountant, 868 discretionary investment manager, expert witness or other advisor;
- 869 (7) Prepare, execute and file a record, report or other document to 870 safeguard or promote the principal's interest under a federal or state 871 statute or regulation;
- 872 (8) Communicate with any representative or employee of a 873 government or governmental subdivision, agency or instrumentality, 874 on behalf of the principal;
- 875 (9) Access communications intended for, and communicate on 876 behalf of, the principal, whether by mail, electronic transmission, 877 telephone or other means; and
- 878 (10) Do any lawful act with respect to the subject and all property related to the subject.
- Sec. 35. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2015*) Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to real property authorizes the agent to:
- 883 (1) Demand, buy, lease, receive, accept as a gift or as security for an

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884 extension of credit or otherwise acquire or reject an interest in real property or a right incident to real property;

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- without (2) Sell; exchange; convey with or covenants, representations, or warranties; quitclaim; release; surrender; retain title for security; encumber; partition; consent to partitioning; subject to an easement or covenant; subdivide; apply for zoning or other governmental permits; plat or consent to platting; develop; grant an option concerning; lease; sublease; contribute to an entity in exchange for an interest in that entity; or otherwise grant or dispose of an interest in real property or a right incident to real property;
- 894 (3) Pledge or mortgage an interest in real property or right incident 895 to real property as security to borrow money or pay, renew or extend 896 the time of payment of a debt of the principal or a debt guaranteed by 897 the principal;
- 898 (4) Release, assign, satisfy or enforce by litigation or otherwise a 899 mortgage, deed of trust, conditional sale contract, encumbrance, lien or 900 other claim to real property which exists or is asserted;
- 901 (5) Manage or conserve an interest in real property or a right 902 incident to real property owned or claimed to be owned by the 903 principal, including:
- 904 (A) Insuring against liability or casualty or other loss;
- 905 (B) Obtaining or regaining possession of or protecting the interest or 906 right by litigation or otherwise;
- 907 (C) Paying, assessing, compromising or contesting taxes or 908 assessments or applying for and receiving refunds in connection with 909 such taxes or assessments; and
- 910 (D) Purchasing supplies, hiring assistance or labor and making 911 repairs or alterations to the real property;
- 912 (6) Use, develop, alter, replace, remove, erect or install structures or

other improvements upon real property in or incident to which the principal has, or claims to have, an interest or right;

- 915 (7) Participate in a reorganization with respect to real property or an 916 entity that owns an interest in or right incident to real property and 917 receive, and hold and act with respect to stocks and bonds or other 918 property received in a plan of reorganization, including:
- 919 (A) Selling or otherwise disposing of such stocks, bonds or other 920 property;
- 921 (B) Exercising or selling an option, right of conversion or similar 922 right with respect to such stocks, bonds or other property; and
- 923 (C) Exercising any voting rights in person or by proxy;
- 924 (8) Change the form of title of an interest in or right incident to real 925 property; and
- 926 (9) Dedicate to public use, with or without consideration, easements 927 or other real property in which the principal has, or claims to have, an 928 interest.
- Sec. 36. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2015*) Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to tangible personal property authorizes the agent to:
- 933 (1) Demand, buy, receive, accept as a gift or as security for an 934 extension of credit or otherwise acquire or reject ownership or 935 possession of tangible personal property or an interest in tangible 936 personal property;
- 937 convey with without Sell; exchange; or covenants, 938 representations, or warranties; quitclaim; release; surrender; create a 939 security interest in; grant options concerning; lease; sublease; or 940 otherwise dispose of tangible personal property or an interest in 941 tangible personal property;

(3) Grant a security interest in tangible personal property or an interest in tangible personal property as security to borrow money or pay, renew or extend the time of payment of a debt of the principal or a debt guaranteed by the principal;

- 946 (4) Release, assign, satisfy or enforce by litigation or otherwise, a 947 security interest, lien or other claim on behalf of the principal, with 948 respect to tangible personal property or an interest in tangible personal 949 property;
- 950 (5) Manage or conserve tangible personal property or an interest in 951 tangible personal property on behalf of the principal, including:
- 952 (A) Insuring against liability or casualty or other loss;
- 953 (B) Obtaining or regaining possession of or protecting the property 954 or interest, by litigation or otherwise;
- 955 (C) Paying, assessing, compromising or contesting taxes or 956 assessments or applying for and receiving refunds in connection with 957 such taxes or assessments;
- 958 (D) Moving the property from place to place;
- 959 (E) Storing the property for hire or on a gratuitous bailment;
- 960 (F) Using and making repairs, alterations or improvements to the 961 property; and
- 962 (6) Change the form of title of an interest in tangible personal property.
- Sec. 37. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2015*) Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to stocks and bonds authorizes the agent to:
 - (1) Buy, sell and exchange stocks and bonds;

969 (2) Establish, continue, modify or terminate an account with respect to stocks and bonds;

- 971 (3) Pledge stocks and bonds as security to borrow, pay, renew or 972 extend the time of payment of a debt of the principal;
- 973 (4) Receive certificates and other evidences of ownership with 974 respect to stocks and bonds; and
- 975 (5) Exercise voting rights with respect to stocks and bonds in person 976 or by proxy, enter into voting trusts and consent to limitations on the 977 right to vote.
- 978 Sec. 38. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2015*) Unless the power of 979 attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting 980 general authority with respect to commodities and options authorizes 981 the agent to:
- 982 (1) Buy, sell, exchange, assign, settle and exercise commodity 983 futures contracts and call or put options on stocks or stock indexes 984 traded on a regulated option exchange; and
- 985 (2) Establish, continue, modify and terminate option accounts.
- Sec. 39. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2015*) Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to banks and other financial institutions authorizes the agent to:
- 990 (1) Continue, modify and terminate an account or other banking 991 arrangement made by or on behalf of the principal;
- (2) Establish, modify, and terminate an account or other banking arrangement with a bank, trust company, savings and loan association, credit union, thrift company, brokerage firm or other financial institution selected by the agent;
- 996 (3) Contract for services available from a financial institution, 997 including renting a safe deposit box or space in a vault;

998 (4) Withdraw by: Check, order, electronic funds transfer or 999 otherwise, money or property of the principal deposited with or left in 1000 the custody of a financial institution;

- (5) Receive statements of account, vouchers, notices and similar documents from a financial institution and act with respect to them;
- 1003 (6) Enter a safe deposit box or vault and withdraw or add to the 1004 contents;
- 1005 (7) Borrow money and pledge as security personal property of the 1006 principal necessary to borrow money or pay, renew or extend the time 1007 of payment of a debt of the principal or a debt guaranteed by the 1008 principal;
- (8) Make, assign, draw, endorse, discount, guarantee and negotiate promissory notes, checks, drafts and other negotiable or nonnegotiable paper of the principal or payable to the principal or the principal's order, transfer money, receive the cash or other proceeds of those transactions and accept a draft drawn by a person upon the principal and pay it when due;
 - (9) Receive for the principal and act upon a sight draft, warehouse receipt, or other document of title whether tangible or electronic, or other negotiable or nonnegotiable instrument;
- 1018 (10) Apply for, receive and use letters of credit, credit and debit 1019 cards, electronic transaction authorizations and traveler's checks from 1020 a financial institution and give an indemnity or other agreement in 1021 connection with letters of credit; and
 - (11) Consent to an extension of the time of payment with respect to commercial paper or a financial transaction with a financial institution.
 - Sec. 40. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2015*) Subject to the terms of a document or an agreement governing an entity or an entity ownership interest, and unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with

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respect to operation of an entity or business authorizes the agent to:

- 1029 (1) Operate, buy, sell, enlarge, reduce, or terminate an ownership 1030 interest;
- 1031 (2) Perform a duty or discharge a liability and exercise in person or 1032 by proxy a right, power, privilege or option that the principal has, may
- 1033 have or claims to have;
- 1034 (3) Enforce the terms of an ownership agreement;
- 1035 (4) Initiate, participate in, submit to alternative dispute resolution,
- 1036 settle, oppose, or propose or accept a compromise with respect to
- 1037 litigation to which the principal is a party because of an ownership
- 1038 interest;
- 1039 (5) Exercise in person or by proxy, or enforce by litigation or
- 1040 otherwise, a right, power, privilege or option the principal has or
- 1041 claims to have as the holder of stocks and bonds;
- 1042 (6) Initiate, participate in, submit to alternative dispute resolution,
- settle, oppose, or propose or accept a compromise with respect to
- 1044 litigation to which the principal is a party concerning stocks and
- 1045 bonds:
- 1046 (7) With respect to an entity or business owned solely by the
- 1047 principal:
- 1048 (A) Continue, modify, renegotiate, extend and terminate a contract
- made by or on behalf of the principal with respect to the entity or
- business before execution of the power of attorney;
- 1051 (B) Determine:
- 1052 (i) The location of its operation;
- 1053 (ii) The nature and extent of its business;
- 1054 (iii) The methods of manufacturing, selling, merchandising,

financing, accounting and advertising employed in its operation;

- 1056 (iv) The amount and types of insurance carried; and
- 1057 (v) The mode of engaging, compensating and dealing with its 1058 employees and accountants, attorneys or other advisors;
- 1059 (C) Change the name or form of organization under which the 1060 entity or business is operated and enter into an ownership agreement 1061 with other persons to take over all or part of the operation of the entity 1062 or business; and
 - (D) Demand and receive money due or claimed by the principal or on the principal's behalf in the operation of the entity or business and control and disburse the money in the operation of the entity or business;
- 1067 (8) Put additional capital into an entity or business in which the principal has an interest;
- 1069 (9) Join in a plan of reorganization, consolidation, conversion, 1070 domestication or merger of the entity or business;
- 1071 (10) Sell or liquidate all or part of an entity or business;
- 1072 (11) Establish the value of an entity or business under a buyout agreement to which the principal is a party;
- 1074 (12) Prepare, sign, file and deliver reports, compilations of 1075 information, returns or other papers with respect to an entity or 1076 business and make related payments; and
- 1077 (13) Pay, compromise or contest taxes, assessments, fines or penalties and perform any other act to protect the principal from illegal or unnecessary taxation, assessments, fines or penalties, with respect to an entity or business, including attempts to recover, in any manner permitted by law, money paid before or after the execution of the power of attorney.

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Sec. 41. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2015*) Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to insurance and annuities authorizes the agent to:

- (1) Continue, pay the premium or make a contribution on, modify, exchange, rescind, release or terminate a contract procured by or on behalf of the principal which insures or provides an annuity to either the principal or another person, whether or not the principal is a beneficiary under the contract;
- 1092 (2) Procure new, different and additional contracts of insurance and annuities for the principal and the principal's spouse, children and other dependents, and select the amount, type of insurance or annuity and mode of payment;
- 1096 (3) Pay the premium or make a contribution on, modify, exchange, 1097 rescind, release or terminate a contract of insurance or annuity 1098 procured by the agent;
- 1099 (4) Apply for and receive a loan secured by a contract of insurance or annuity;
- 1101 (5) Surrender and receive the cash surrender value on a contract of insurance or annuity;
- 1103 (6) Exercise an election;

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- 1104 (7) Exercise investment powers available under a contract of 1105 insurance or annuity;
- 1106 (8) Change the manner of paying premiums on a contract of 1107 insurance or annuity;
- 1108 (9) Change or convert the type of insurance or annuity with respect 1109 to which the principal has or claims to have authority described in this 1110 section;
- (10) Apply for and procure a benefit or assistance under a federal or

state statute or regulation to guarantee or pay premiums of a contract of insurance on the life of the principal;

- 1114 (11) Collect, sell, assign, hypothecate, borrow against or pledge the 1115 interest of the principal in a contract of insurance or annuity;
- 1116 (12) Select the form and timing of the payment of proceeds from a 1117 contract of insurance or annuity; and
- 1118 (13) Pay, from proceeds or otherwise, compromise or contest and 1119 apply for refunds in connection with, a tax or assessment levied by a 1120 taxing authority with respect to a contract of insurance or annuity or 1121 its proceeds or liability accruing by reason of the tax or assessment.
- Sec. 42. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2015*) (a) For purposes of this section, "estate, trust or other beneficial interest" means a trust, probate estate, guardianship, conservatorship, escrow or custodianship or a fund from which the principal is, may become or claims to be, entitled to a share or payment.
- 1127 (b) Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a 1128 power of attorney granting general authority with respect to estates, 1129 trusts and other beneficial interests authorizes the agent to:
- 1130 (1) Accept, receive, receipt for, sell, assign, pledge or exchange a 1131 share in or payment from an estate, trust or other beneficial interest;
- 1132 (2) Demand or obtain money or another thing of value to which the 1133 principal is, may become or claims to be, entitled by reason of an 1134 estate, trust or other beneficial interest, by litigation or otherwise;
- 135 (3) Exercise for the benefit of the principal a presently exercisable general power of appointment held by the principal;
- (4) Initiate, participate in, submit to alternative dispute resolution, settle, oppose, or propose or accept a compromise with respect to litigation to ascertain the meaning, validity or effect of a deed, will, declaration of trust or other instrument or transaction affecting the

- interest of the principal;
- 1142 (5) Initiate, participate in, submit to alternative dispute resolution,
- settle, oppose, or propose or accept a compromise with respect to
- 1144 litigation to remove, substitute or surcharge a fiduciary;
- 1145 (6) Conserve, invest, disburse or use anything received for an
- 1146 authorized purpose; and
- 1147 (7) Transfer an interest of the principal in real property, stocks and
- bonds, accounts with financial institutions or securities intermediaries,
- insurance, annuities and other property to the trustee of a revocable
- 1150 trust created by the principal as settlor.
- 1151 Sec. 43. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2015) Unless the power of
- attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting
- general authority with respect to claims and litigation authorizes the
- 1154 agent to:
- 1155 (1) Assert and maintain before a court or administrative agency a
- claim, claim for relief, cause of action, counterclaim, offset, recoupment
- or defense, including an action to recover property or other thing of
- value, recover damages sustained by the principal, eliminate or modify
- tax liability, or seek an injunction, specific performance or other relief;
- 1160 (2) Bring an action to determine adverse claims or intervene or
- 1161 otherwise participate in litigation;
- 1162 (3) Seek an attachment, garnishment, order of arrest or other
- preliminary, provisional or intermediate relief and use an available
- procedure to effect or satisfy a judgment, order or decree;
- 1165 (4) Make or accept a tender, offer of judgment or admission of facts,
- 1166 submit a controversy on an agreed statement of facts, consent to
- examination and bind the principal in litigation;
- 1168 (5) Submit to alternative dispute resolution, settle and propose or
- 1169 accept a compromise;

(6) Waive the issuance and service of process upon the principal, accept service of process, appear for the principal, designate persons upon which process directed to the principal may be served, execute and file or deliver stipulations on the principal's behalf, verify pleadings, seek appellate review, procure and give surety and indemnity bonds, contract and pay for the preparation and printing of records and briefs, receive, execute, and file or deliver a consent, waiver, release, confession of judgment, satisfaction of judgment, notice, agreement or other instrument in connection with the prosecution, settlement or defense of a claim or litigation;

- (7) Act for the principal with respect to bankruptcy or insolvency, whether voluntary or involuntary, concerning the principal or some other person, or with respect to a reorganization, receivership or application for the appointment of a receiver or trustee which affects an interest of the principal in property or other thing of value;
- 1185 (8) Pay a judgment, award or order against the principal or a 1186 settlement made in connection with a claim or litigation; and
- 1187 (9) Receive money or other thing of value paid in settlement of or as 1188 proceeds of a claim or litigation.
- Sec. 44. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2015*) (a) Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to personal and family maintenance authorizes the agent to:
- (1) Perform the acts necessary to maintain the customary standard of living of the principal, the principal's spouse and the following individuals, whether living when the power of attorney is executed or later born:
- 1197 (A) The principal's children;

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1198 (B) Other individuals legally entitled to be supported by the 1199 principal; and

1200 (C) The individuals whom the principal has customarily supported 1201 or indicated the intent to support;

- (2) Make periodic payments of child support and other family maintenance required by a court or governmental agency or an agreement to which the principal is a party;
- 1205 (3) Provide living quarters for the individuals described in 1206 subdivision (1) of this subsection by:
- 1207 (A) Purchase, lease or other contract; or

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- 1208 (B) Paying the operating costs, including interest, amortization 1209 payments, repairs, improvements and taxes, for premises owned by 1210 the principal or occupied by those individuals;
- (4) Provide normal domestic help, usual vacations and travel expenses and funds for shelter, clothing, food, appropriate education, including post secondary and vocational education and other current living costs for the individuals described in subdivision (1) of this subsection;
- 1216 (5) Pay expenses for necessary health care and custodial care on 1217 behalf of the individuals described in subdivision (1) of this subsection;
 - (6) Act as the principal's personal representative pursuant to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, Sections 1171 to 1179, inclusive, of the Social Security Act, 42 USC 1320d, as amended from time to time, and applicable federal regulations, in making decisions related to the past, present or future payment for the provision of health care consented to by the principal or anyone authorized under the law of this state to consent to health care on behalf of the principal;
- 1226 (7) Continue any provision made by the principal for automobiles or 1227 other means of transportation, including registering, licensing, 1228 insuring and replacing them, for the individuals described in 1229 subdivision (1) of this subsection;

1230 (8) Maintain credit and debit accounts for the convenience of the 1231 individuals described in subdivision (1) of this subsection and open 1232 new accounts; and

- (9) Continue payments incidental to the membership or affiliation of the principal in a religious institution, club, society, order or other organization or continue contributions to those organizations.
- (b) Authority with respect to personal and family maintenance is neither dependent upon, nor limited by, authority that an agent may or may not have with respect to gifts under sections 9 to 53, inclusive, of this act.
- Sec. 45. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2015*) (a) For purposes of this section, "benefits from governmental programs or civil or military service" means any benefit, program or assistance provided under a federal or state statute or regulation including Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid.
 - (b) Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to benefits from governmental programs or civil or military service authorizes the agent to:
 - (1) Execute vouchers in the name of the principal for allowances and reimbursements payable by the United States or a foreign government or by a state or subdivision of a state to the principal, including allowances and reimbursements for transportation of the individuals described in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 44 of this act, and for shipment of their household effects;
 - (2) Take possession and order the removal and shipment of property of the principal from a post, warehouse, depot, dock or other place of storage or safekeeping, either governmental or private, and execute and deliver a release, voucher, receipt, bill of lading, shipping ticket, certificate or other instrument for that purpose;
- (3) Enroll in, apply for, select, reject, change, amend or discontinue,

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- on the principal's behalf, a benefit or program;
- 1262 (4) Prepare, file, and maintain a claim of the principal for a benefit 1263 or assistance, financial or otherwise, to which the principal may be 1264 entitled under a federal or state statute or regulation;
- (5) Initiate, participate in, submit to alternative dispute resolution, settle, oppose, or propose or accept a compromise with respect to litigation concerning any benefit or assistance the principal may be entitled to receive under a federal or state statute or regulation; and
- 1269 (6) Receive the financial proceeds of a claim described in 1270 subdivision (4) of this subsection and conserve, invest, disburse or use 1271 for a lawful purpose anything so received.
- 1272 Sec. 46. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2015) (a) For purposes of this 1273 section, "retirement plan" means a plan or account created by an 1274 employer, the principal or another individual to provide retirement 1275 benefits or deferred compensation of which the principal is a 1276 participant, beneficiary or owner, including a plan or account under 1277 the following sections of the of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or 1278 any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United 1279 States, as amended from time to time:
- 1280 (1) An individual retirement account under 26 USC 408, as amended 1281 from time to time;
- 1282 (2) A Roth individual retirement account under 26 USC 408A, as 1283 amended from time to time;
- 1284 (3) A deemed individual retirement account under 26 USC 408(q), as 1285 amended from time to time;
- 1286 (4) An annuity or mutual fund custodial account under 26 USC 1287 403(b), as amended from time to time;
- 1288 (5) A pension, profit sharing, stock bonus or other retirement plan 1289 qualified under 26 USC 401(a), as amended from time to time;

1290 (6) A plan under 26 USC 457(b), as amended from time to time; and

- 1291 (7) A nonqualified deferred compensation plan under 26 USC 409A, 1292 as amended from time to time.
- 1293 (b) Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a
- 1294 power of attorney granting general authority with respect to
- 1295 retirement plans authorizes the agent to:
- 1296 (1) Select the form and timing of payments under a retirement plan 1297 and withdraw benefits from a plan;
- 1298 (2) Make a rollover, including a direct trustee to trustee rollover, of 1299 benefits from one retirement plan to another;
- 1300 (3) Establish a retirement plan in the principal's name;
- 1301 (4) Make contributions to a retirement plan;
- 1302 (5) Exercise investment powers available under a retirement plan; 1303 and
- 1304 (6) Borrow from, sell assets to or purchase assets from a retirement 1305 plan.
- Sec. 47. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2015*) Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a power of attorney granting general authority with respect to taxes authorizes the agent to:
- 1309 (1) Prepare, sign and file federal, state, local and foreign income, 1310 gift, payroll, property, Federal Insurance Contributions Act and other 1311 tax returns, claims for refunds, requests for extension of time, petitions 1312 regarding tax matters and any other tax related documents, including, 1313 receipts, offers, waivers, consents, including consents and agreements 1314 under 26 USC 2032A, as amended from time to time, closing 1315 agreements and any power of attorney required by the Internal 1316 Revenue Service or other taxing authority with respect to a tax year 1317 upon which the statute of limitations has not run and the following 1318 twenty-five tax years;

1319 (2) Pay taxes due, collect refunds, post bonds, receive confidential 1320 information and contest deficiencies determined by the Internal 1321 Revenue Service or other taxing authority;

- 1322 (3) Exercise any election available to the principal under federal, state, local or foreign tax law; and
- 1324 (4) Act for the principal in all tax matters for all periods before the 1325 Internal Revenue Service, or other taxing authority.
- Sec. 48. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2015*) (a) For purposes of this section, a gift "for the benefit of" a person includes a gift to a trust, an account under the Uniform Transfers to Minors Act and a tuition savings account or prepaid tuition plan as defined under 26 USC 529, as amended from time to time.
- 1331 (b) Unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, language in a 1332 power of attorney granting general authority with respect to gifts 1333 authorizes the agent only to:
- 1334 (1) Make outright to, or for the benefit of, a person, a gift of any of 1335 the principal's property, including by the exercise of a presently 1336 exercisable general power of appointment held by the principal, in an 1337 amount per donee not to exceed the annual dollar limits of the federal 1338 gift tax exclusion under 26 USC 2503(b), as amended from time to time, 1339 without regard to whether the federal gift tax exclusion applies to the 1340 gift, or if the principal's spouse agrees to consent to a split gift 1341 pursuant to 26 USC 2513, as amended from time to time, in an amount 1342 per donee not to exceed twice the annual federal gift tax exclusion 1343 limit; and
- (2) Consent, pursuant to 26 USC 2513, as amended from time to time, to the splitting of a gift made by the principal's spouse in an amount per donee not to exceed the aggregate annual gift tax exclusions for both spouses.
- 1348 (c) An agent may make a gift of the principal's property only as the 1349 agent determines is consistent with the principal's objectives if actually

135013511352	known by the agent and, if unknown, as the agent determines is consistent with the principal's best interest based on all relevant factors, including:			
1353	(1) The value and nature of the principal's property;			
1354 1355	() 1			
1356 1357	(3) Minimization of taxes, including income, estate, inheritance generation skipping transfer and gift taxes;			
1358 1359	(4) Eligibility for a benefit, a program, or assistance under a federa or state statute or regulation; and			
1360 1361	(5) The principal's personal history of making or joining in making gifts.			
1362	Sec. 49. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2015) A document substantially			
1363	in the following form may be used to create a statutory form power of			
1364	attorney that has the meaning and effect prescribed by sections 9 to 53,			
1365	inclusive, of this act.			
1366	CONNECTICUT			
1367	STATUTORY FORM POWER OF ATTORNEY			
1368	IMPORTANT INFORMATION			
1369	This power of attorney authorizes another person (your agent) to			
1370	make decisions concerning your property for you (the principal). You			
1371	agent will be able to make decisions and act with respect to your			
1372	property (including your money) whether or not you are able to act for			
1373	yourself. The meaning of authority over subjects listed on this form is			
1374	explained in the Connecticut Uniform Power of Attorney Act.			
1375	This power of attorney does not authorize the agent to make health			
1376	care decisions for you.			
1377	You should select someone you trust to serve as your agent. Unless			

1378	you specify otherwise, generally the agent's authority will continue		
1379	until you die or revoke the power of attorney or the agent resigns or is		
1380	unable to act for you.		
1381	Your agent is entitled to reasonable compensation unless you stat		
1382	otherwise in the special instructions.		
1383	This form provides for designation of one agent. If you wish to		
1384	name more than one agent you may name a coagent in the specia		
1385	instructions. Coagents are not required to act together unless you		
1386	include that requirement in the special instructions.		
1387	If your agent is unable or unwilling to act for you, your power of		
1388	attorney will end unless you have named a successor agent. You may		
1389	also name a second successor agent.		
1390	This power of attorney becomes effective immediately unless you		
1391	state otherwise in the special instructions.		
1392	If you have questions about the power of attorney or the authority		
1393	you are granting to your agent, you should seek legal advice before		
1394	signing this form.		
1395	DESIGNATION OF AGENT		
1396	Iname the following person		
1397	(Name of Principal)		
1398			
1399	as my agent:		
1400	Name of Agent:		
1401	Agent's Address:		
1402	DESIGNATION OF SUCCESSOR AGENT(S) (OPTIONAL)		
1403	If my agent is unable or unwilling to act for me, I name as my		
1404	successor agent:		

1405	Name of Successor Agent:			
1406	Successor Agent's Address:			
1407	If my successor agent is unable or unwilling to act for me, I name as			
1408	my second successor agent:			
1409	Name of Second Successor Agent:			
1410	Second Successor Agent's Address:			
1411	GRANT OF GENERAL AUTHORITY			
1412	I grant my agent and any successor agent general authority to act			
1413	for me with respect to the following subjects as defined in the			
1414	Connecticut Uniform Power of Attorney Act, sections 9 to 53,			
1415	inclusive, of this act:			
1416	(INITIAL each subject you want to include in the agent's general			
1417	authority. If you wish to grant general authority over all of the subjects			
1418	you may initial "All Preceding Subjects" instead of initialing each			
1419	subject.)			
1420	() Real Property			
1421	() Tangible Personal Property			
1422	() Stocks and Bonds			
1423	() Commodities and Options			
1424	() Banks and Other Financial Institutions			
1425	() Operation of Entity or Business			
1426	() Insurance and Annuities			
1427	() Estates, Trusts and Other Beneficial Interests			
1428	() Claims and Litigation			

1429	() Personal and Family Maintenance			
1430 1431	() Benefits from Governmental Programs or Civil or Military Service			
1432	() Retirement Plans			
1433	() Taxes			
1434	() All Preceding Subjects			
1435	GRANT OF SPECIFIC AUTHORITY (OPTIONAL)			
1436 1437	My agent MAY NOT do any of the following specific acts for me UNLESS I have INITIALED the specific authority listed below:			
1438 1439 1440 1441	(CAUTION: Granting any of the following will give your agent the authority to take actions that could significantly reduce your property or change how your property is distributed at your death. INITIAL ONLY the specific authority you WANT to give your agent.)			
1442 1443	YOU SHOULD SEEK LEGAL ADVICE BEFORE INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING POWERS.			
1444 1445 1446 1447 1448 1449 1450 1451 1452 1453 1454 1455	() Make a gift, subject to the limitations of the Connecticut Uniform Power of Attorney Act and any special instructions in this power of attorney. Unless otherwise provided in the special instructions, gifts per recipient may not exceed the annual dollar limits of the federal gift tax exclusion under Internal Revenue Code Section 2503(b), or if the principal's spouse agrees to consent to a split gift pursuant to Internal Revenue Code Section 2513, in an amount per recipient not to exceed twice the annual federal gift tax exclusion limit. In addition, an agent must determine that gifts are consistent with the principal's objectives if actually known by the agent and, if unknown, as the agent determines is consistent with the principal's best interest based on all relevant factors.			
1456	() Create or change rights of survivorship			

sSB1005 File No. 201 1457 (____) Create or change a beneficiary designation 1458 (____) Authorize another person to exercise the authority granted 1459 under this power of attorney 1460 (___) Waive the principal's right to be a beneficiary of a joint and 1461 survivor annuity, including a survivor benefit under a retirement plan 1462 (___) Exercise fiduciary powers that the principal has authority to delegate 1463 1464 (____) Disclaim or refuse an interest in property, including a power 1465 of appointment 1466 LIMITATION ON AGENT'S AUTHORITY 1467 An agent that is not my ancestor, spouse, or descendant MAY NOT 1468 use my property to benefit the agent or a person to whom the agent 1469 owes an obligation of support unless I have included that authority in 1470 the special instructions. 1471 SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS (OPTIONAL) 1472 You may give special instructions on the following lines: 1473 1474 1475 1476 1477 1478 1479 I approve these special instructions 1480 1481 Your Signature Date 1482 **EFFECTIVE DATE** 1483 This power of attorney is effective immediately unless I have stated

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1484	otherwise in the special instructions.		
1485	NOMINATION OF CONSERVATOR (OPTIONAL)		
1486	Initial below if you want to include the following provision(s):		
1487	() I hereby nominate the same person(s) that I have named as my		
1488	agent(s) under this power of attorney as conservator(s) of my estate if		
1489	it becomes necessary for a court to appoint a conservator of my estate.		
1490	() In the event that	a court appoints m	ny agent(s) as my
1491	conservator(s), I request that my conservator(s) not be required to post		
1492	a bond.		
1493	RELIANCE ON	N THIS POWER OF AT	TORNEY
1494	Any person, including m	y agent, may rely upor	the validity of this
1495	power of attorney or a co	py of it unless that pe	erson knows it has
1496			
1497	SIGNATURE	AND ACKNOWLEDO	SMENT
1498	Signed in the presence of:		
1499			
1500	Witness Signature	Your Signature	Date
1501			
1502	Witness Signature	Your Signature	Date
1503	Your Name Printed		
1504			_
1505			_

1506	Your Address	
1507		
1508	Your Telephone Number	
1509	State of	
1510	County of	
1511	This document was acknowledged before me On,	
1512	(Date)	
1513	by	
1514	(Name of Principal)	
1515	(C 1 : ()	
1515 1516	(Seal, if any) Signature of Commissioner of Superior Court/Notary	
1517	My commission expires:	
1518	IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR AGENT	
1519	Agent's Duties	
1520	When you accept the authority granted under this power of	
1521	attorney, a special legal relationship is created between you and the	
1522	principal. This relationship continues until you resign or the power of	
1523	attorney is terminated or revoked. You must:	
1524	(1) Do what you know the principal reasonably expects you to do	
1525	with the principal's property or, if you do not know the principal's	
1526	expectations, act in the principal's best interest;	
1527	(2) Act in good faith;	
1528	(3) Do nothing beyond the authority granted in this power of	
1529	attorney; and	
	sSR1005 / File No. 201 53	

1530	(4) Disclose your identity as an agent whenever you act for the		
1531	principal by writing or printing the name of the principal and signing		
1532	your own name as "agent" in the following manner:		
1533	(Principal's Name) by (Your Signature) as Agent		
1534	Unless the special instructions in this power of attorney state		
1535	otherwise, you must also:		
1536	(1) Act loyally for the principal's benefit;		
1537	(2) Avoid conflicts that would impair your ability to act in the		
1538			
1539	(3) Act with care, competence, and diligence;		
1540	(4) Keep a record of all receipts, disbursements, and transactions		
1541	made on behalf of the principal;		
1542	(5) Cooperate with any person that has authority to make health		
1543			
1544	reasonably expects or, if you do not know the principal's expectations,		
1545	to act in the principal's best interest; and		
1546	(6) Attempt to preserve the principal's estate plan if you know the		
1547	plan and preserving the plan is consistent with the principal's best		
1548	interest.		
1549	Termination of Agent's Authority		
1550	You must stop acting on behalf of the principal if you learn of any		
1551	event that terminates this power of attorney or your authority under		
1552	this power of attorney. Events that terminate a power of attorney or		
1553	your authority to act under a power of attorney include:		
1554	(1) Death of the principal;		
1555	(2) The principal's revocation of the power of attorney or your		
1556	authority;		

1557	(3) The occurrence of a termination event stated in the power of		
1558	attorney;		
1559	(4) The purpose of the power of attorney is fully accomplished; or		
1560	(5) If you are married to the principal, a legal action is filed with a		
1561	court to end your marriage, or for your legal separation, unless the		
1562	special instructions in this power of attorney state that such an action		
1563	will not terminate your authority.		
1564	Liability of Agent		
1565	The meaning of the authority granted to you is defined in the		
1566	Connecticut Uniform Power of Attorney Act, sections 9 to 53,		
1567	inclusive, of this act. If you violate the Connecticut Uniform Power of		
1568	Attorney Act, sections 9 to 53, inclusive, of this act or act outside the		
1569	authority granted, you may be liable for any damages caused by your		
1570	violation.		
1571	If there is anything about this document or your duties that you do		
1572	not understand, you should seek legal advice.		
1573	Sec. 50. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2015) The following optional		
1574	form may be used by an agent to certify facts concerning a power of		
1575	attorney.		
1576	AGENT'S CERTIFICATION AS TO THE		
1577	VALIDITY OF POWER OF ATTORNEY AND AGENT'S		
1578	AUTHORITY		
1579	State of		
1580	County of		
1581	I, (Name of Agent), certify under penalty of		
1582	false statement that(Name of Principal) granted		
1583	me authority as an agent or successor agent in a power of attorney		
1584	dated		

1585	I further certify that to my knowledge:			
1586 1587 1588 1589	(1) the Principal is alive and has not revoked the Power of Attorned or my authority to act under the Power of Attorney and the Power of Attorney and my authority to act under the Power of Attorney have not terminated;			
1590 1591 1592	(2) if the Power of Attorney was drafted to become effective upon the happening of an event or contingency, the event or contingency has occurred;			
1593 1594				
1595	(4)			
1596				
1597				
1598				
1599	(Insert other relevant statements)			
1600	SIGNATURE AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT			
1601				
1602	Agent's Signature Date			
1603				
1604	Agent's Name Printed			
1605				
1606				
1607	Agent's Address			
1608				
1609	Agent's Telephone Number			
1610	This document was acknowledged before me on _	,		
1611		(Date)		

	by
	(Name of Agent)
	(C. 1 : ()
	(Seal, if any) Signature of Commissioner of Superior Court/Notary
	My commission expires:
	Sec. 51. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2015) In applying and construing
	the provisions of sections 9 to 53, inclusive, of this act, consideration
	must be given to the need to promote uniformity of the law with
	respect to its subject matter among the states that enact it.
	Sec. 52. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2015) Sections 9 to 53, inclusive,
	of this act modify, limit, and supersede the federal Electronic
Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act, 15 USC 7001 et seq.,	
	but do not modify, limit, or supersede Section 101(c) of that act, 15
	USC 7001(c), or authorize electronic delivery of any of the notices
	described in Section 3(b) of that act, 15 USC 7003(b).
	Sec. 53. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2015) (a) Except as otherwise
]	provided in sections 9 to 53, inclusive, of this act, on October 1, 2015,
	said sections apply to:
	(1) A power of attorney created before, on, or after October 1, 2015;
	(2) A judicial proceeding concerning a power of attorney
	commenced on or after October 1, 2015;
	(3) A judicial proceeding concerning a power of attorney
	commenced before October 1, 2015, unless the court finds that
	application of a provision of sections 9 to 53, inclusive, of this act
	would substantially interfere with the effective conduct of the judicial
	proceeding or prejudice the rights of a party, in which case that
	provision does not apply and the superseded law applies; and
	(b) An act performed by an agent under a power of attorney before
	- OD4005 / File No. 204

October 1, 2015, is not affected by sections 9 to 53, inclusive, of this act.

Sec. 54. Subsection (a) of section 45a-98 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):

(a) Courts of probate in their respective districts shall have the power to (1) grant administration of intestate estates of persons who have died domiciled in their districts and of intestate estates of persons not domiciled in this state which may be granted as provided by section 45a-303; (2) admit wills to probate of persons who have died domiciled in their districts or of nondomiciliaries whose wills may be proved in their districts as provided in section 45a-287; (3) except as provided in section 45a-98a or as limited by an applicable statute of limitations, determine title or rights of possession and use in and to any real, tangible or intangible property that constitutes, or may constitute, all or part of any trust, any decedent's estate, or any estate under control of a guardian or conservator, which trust or estate is otherwise subject to the jurisdiction of the Probate Court, including the rights and obligations of any beneficiary of the trust or estate and including the rights and obligations of any joint tenant with respect to survivorship property; (4) except as provided in section 45a-98a, construe the meaning and effect of any will or trust agreement if a construction is required in connection with the administration or distribution of a trust or estate otherwise subject to the jurisdiction of the Probate Court, or, upon petition from a beneficiary as defined in section 45a-175, as amended by this act, with respect to an inter vivos trust, if that trust is or could be subject to jurisdiction of the court for an accounting pursuant to section 45a-175, as amended by this act, provided such an accounting need not be required; (5) except as provided in section 45a-98a, apply the doctrine of cy pres or approximation; (6) to the extent provided for in section 45a-175, as amended by this act, call executors, administrators, trustees, guardians, conservators, persons appointed to sell the land of minors, and [attorneys-in-fact] agents acting under powers of attorney created in accordance with [section 45a-562] sections 9 to 53, inclusive, of this

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act, to account concerning the estates entrusted to their charge <u>or for</u> other relief as provided in sections 9 to 53, inclusive, of this act; and (7) make any lawful orders or decrees to carry into effect the power and jurisdiction conferred upon them by the laws of this state.

- Sec. 55. Section 45a-175 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):
 - (a) Courts of probate shall have jurisdiction of the interim and final accounts of testamentary trustees, trustees appointed by the courts of probate, conservators, guardians, persons appointed by probate courts to sell the land of minors, executors, administrators and trustees in insolvency, and, to the extent provided for in this section, shall have jurisdiction of accounts of the actions of trustees of inter vivos trusts and [attorneys-in-fact] agents acting under powers of attorney.
 - (b) A trustee or settlor of an inter vivos trust or an attorney-in-fact or the successor of the trustee, settlor [or attorney-in-fact or the grantor of such power of attorney] or his legal representative may make application to the court of probate for the district where the trustee, or any one of them, [or the attorney-in-fact] has any place of business or to the court of probate for the district where the trustee or any one of them or the settlor [or the attorney-in-fact or the grantor of the power] resides or, in the case of a deceased settlor, [or grantor,] to the court of probate having jurisdiction over the estate of the settlor [or grantor] or for the district in which the settlor [or grantor] resided immediately prior to death for submission to the jurisdiction of the court of an account for allowance of the trustee's [or attorney's] actions under such trust. [or power.]
 - (c) (1) Any beneficiary of an inter vivos trust may petition a court of probate having jurisdiction under this section for an accounting by the trustee or trustees. The court may, after hearing with notice to all interested parties, grant the petition and require an accounting for such periods of time as it determines are reasonable and necessary on finding that: (A) The beneficiary has an interest in the trust sufficient to entitle him to an accounting, (B) cause has been shown that an

accounting is necessary, and (C) the petition is not for the purpose of harassment.

- (2) A court of probate shall have jurisdiction to require an accounting under subdivision (1) of this subsection if (A) a trustee of the trust resides in its district, (B) in the case of a corporate trustee, the trustee has any place of business in the district, (C) any of the trust assets are maintained or evidences of intangible property of the trust are situated in the district, or (D) the settlor resides in the district or, in the case of a deceased settlor, resided in the district immediately prior to death.
- 1717 (3) As used in subdivision (1) of this subsection, "beneficiary" means 1718 any person currently receiving payments of income or principal from 1719 the trust, or who may be entitled to receive income or principal or both 1720 from the trust at some future date, or the legal representative of such 1721 person.
 - (d) Any of the persons specified in section 24 of this act may make application to the court of probate for the district where the agent has any place of business or to the court of probate for the district where the agent or the principal resides or, in the case of a deceased principal, to the court of probate having jurisdiction over the estate of the principal or for the district in which the principal resided immediately prior to death, for an accounting or other relief as provided in section 24 of this act. The court shall grant the petition if filed by the principal, agent, guardian, conservator or other fiduciary acting for the principal. The court may grant a petition filed by any other person specified in section 24 of this act if it finds that (1) the petitioner has an interest sufficient to entitle him to the relief requested, (2) cause has been shown that such relief is necessary, and (3) the petition is not for the purpose of harassment.
 - [(d)] (e) The action to submit an accounting to the court, whether by an inter vivos trustee or [attorney] agent acting under a power of attorney or whether pursuant to petition of another party, shall not subject the trust or the power of attorney to the continuing jurisdiction

1740 of the Probate Court.

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1741 [(e)] (f) If the court finds such appointment to be necessary and in 1742 the best interests of the estate, the court upon its own motion may 1743 appoint an auditor to be selected from a list provided by the Probate 1744 Court Administrator, to examine accounts over which the court has 1745 jurisdiction under this section, except those accounts on matters in 1746 which the fiduciary or cofiduciary is a corporation having trust 1747 Probate Court Administrator shall promulgate 1748 regulations in accordance with section 45a-77 concerning the 1749 compilation of a list of qualified auditors. Costs of the audit may be 1750 charged to the fiduciary, any party in interest and the estate, in such 1751 proportion as the court shall direct if the court finds such charge to be 1752 equitable. Any such share may be paid from the fund established 1753 under section 45a-82, subject to the approval of the Probate Court 1754 Administrator, if it is determined that the person obligated to pay such 1755 share is unable to pay or to charge such amount to the estate would 1756 cause undue hardship.

- [(f)] (g) Upon the allowance of any such account, the court shall determine the rights of the fiduciaries or the [attorney-in-fact] agent under a power of attorney rendering the account and of the parties interested in the account, including the relief authorized under section 25 of this act, subject to appeal as in other cases. The court shall cause notice of the hearing on the account to be given in such manner and to such parties as it directs.
- [(g)] (h) In any action under this section, the Probate Court shall have, in addition to powers pursuant to this section, all the powers available to a judge of the Superior Court at law and in equity pertaining to matters under this section.
- Sec. 56. Subsection (b) of section 45a-645 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):
- 1771 (b) The designation shall be executed, witnessed and revoked in the

same manner as provided for wills in sections 45a-251 and 45a-257, or a power of attorney executed in accordance with section 13 of this act, except that any person who is so designated as a conservator shall not qualify as a witness.

- Sec. 57. Section 45a-650 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):
 - (a) At any hearing on an application for involuntary representation, before the court receives any evidence regarding the condition of the respondent or of the respondent's affairs, the court shall require clear and convincing evidence that the court has jurisdiction, that the respondent has been given notice as required in section 45a-649, and that the respondent has been advised of the right to retain an attorney pursuant to section 45a-649a and is either represented by an attorney or has waived the right to be represented by an attorney. The respondent shall have the right to attend any hearing held under this section.
 - (b) The rules of evidence applicable to civil matters in the Superior Court shall apply to all hearings pursuant to this section. All testimony at a hearing held pursuant to this section shall be given under oath or affirmation.
 - (c) (1) After making the findings required under subsection (a) of this section, the court shall receive evidence regarding the respondent's condition, the capacity of the respondent to care for himself or herself or to manage his or her affairs, and the ability of the respondent to meet his or her needs without the appointment of a conservator. Unless waived by the court pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection, medical evidence shall be introduced from one or more physicians licensed to practice medicine in this state who have examined the respondent not more than forty-five days prior to the hearing, except that for a person with intellectual disability, as defined in section 1-1g, psychological evidence may be introduced in lieu of such medical evidence from a psychologist licensed pursuant to chapter 383 who has examined the respondent not more than forty-five

days prior to the hearing. The evidence shall contain specific information regarding the respondent's condition and the effect of the respondent's condition on the respondent's ability to care for himself or herself or to manage his or her affairs. The court may also consider such other evidence as may be available and relevant, including, but not limited to, a summary of the physical and social functioning level or ability of the respondent, and the availability of support services from the family, neighbors, community or any other appropriate source. Such evidence may include, if available, reports from the social work service of a general hospital, municipal social worker, director of social service, public health nurse, public health agency, psychologist, coordinating assessment and monitoring agencies, or such other persons as the court considers qualified to provide such evidence.

- (2) The court may waive the requirement that medical evidence be presented if it is shown that the evidence is impossible to obtain because of the absence of the respondent or the respondent's refusal to be examined by a physician or that the alleged incapacity is not medical in nature. If such requirement is waived, the court shall make a specific finding in any decree issued on the application stating why medical evidence was not required.
- (3) Any hospital, psychiatric, psychological or medical record or report filed with the court pursuant to this subsection shall be confidential.
- (d) Upon the filing of an application for involuntary representation pursuant to section 45a-648, the court shall issue an order for the disclosure of the medical information required pursuant to this section and any psychological information submitted with respect to a person with intellectual disability pursuant to subsection (c) of this section to the respondent's attorney and, upon request, to the respondent. The court may issue an order for the disclosure of such information to any other person as the court determines necessary.
- (e) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 45a-7, the court may hold the hearing on the application at a place other than its usual

courtroom if it would facilitate attendance by the respondent.

(f) (1) If the court finds by clear and convincing evidence that the respondent is incapable of managing the respondent's affairs, that the respondent's affairs cannot be managed adequately without the appointment of a conservator and that the appointment of a conservator is the least restrictive means of intervention available to assist the respondent in managing the respondent's affairs, the court may appoint a conservator of his or her estate after considering the factors set forth in subsection (g) of this section.

- (2) If the court finds by clear and convincing evidence that the respondent is incapable of caring for himself or herself, that the respondent cannot be cared for adequately without the appointment of a conservator and that the appointment of a conservator is the least restrictive means of intervention available to assist the respondent in caring for himself or herself, the court may appoint a conservator of his or her person after considering the factors set forth in subsection (g) of this section.
- (3) No conservator may be appointed if the respondent's personal needs and property management are being met adequately by an agency or individual appointed pursuant to section [1-43,] 19a-575a, 19a-577, 19a-580e or 19a-580g.
- (g) When determining whether a conservator should be appointed the court shall consider the following factors: (1) The abilities of the respondent; (2) the respondent's capacity to understand and articulate an informed preference regarding the care of his or her person or the management of his or her affairs; (3) any relevant and material information obtained from the respondent; (4) evidence of the respondent's past preferences and life style choices; (5) the respondent's cultural background; (6) the desirability of maintaining continuity in the respondent's life and environment; (7) whether the respondent had previously made adequate alternative arrangements for the care of his or her person or for the management of his or her affairs, including, but not limited to, the execution of a durable power

of attorney, springing power of attorney, the appointment of a health care representative or health care agent, the execution of a living will or trust or the execution of any other similar document; (8) any relevant and material evidence from the respondent's family and any other person regarding the respondent's past practices and preferences; and (9) any supportive services, technologies or other means that are available to assist the respondent in meeting his or her needs.

(h) The respondent or conserved person may appoint, designate or nominate a conservator or successor conservator pursuant to section 19a-575a, 19a-580e, 19a-580g or 45a-645, as amended by this act, or may, orally or in writing, nominate a conservator or successor conservator who shall be appointed unless the court finds that the appointee, designee or nominee is unwilling or unable to serve or there is substantial evidence to disqualify such person. If there is no such appointment, designation or nomination or if the court does not appoint the person appointed, designated or nominated by the respondent or conserved person, the court may appoint any qualified person, authorized public official or corporation in accordance with subsections (a) and (b) of section 45a-644. In considering whom to appoint as conservator or successor conservator, the court shall consider (1) the extent to which a proposed conservator has knowledge of the respondent's or conserved person's preferences regarding the care of his or her person or the management of his or her affairs, (2) the ability of the proposed conservator to carry out the duties, responsibilities and powers of a conservator, (3) the cost of the proposed conservatorship to the estate of the respondent or conserved person, (4) the proposed conservator's commitment to promoting the respondent's or conserved person's welfare and independence, and (5) any existing or potential conflicts of interest of the proposed conservator.

(i) If the court appoints a conservator of the estate of the respondent, the court shall require a probate bond. The court may, if it considers it necessary for the protection of the respondent, require a bond of any

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conservator of the person appointed under this section.

- (j) Absent the court's order to the contrary and except as otherwise provided in subsection (b) of section 19a-580e, a conservator appointed pursuant to this section shall be bound by all health care decisions properly made by the conserved person's health care representative.
- (k) In assigning the duties of a conservator under this section the court may, in accordance with section 16 of this act, limit, suspend or terminate the authority of an agent designated by the conserved person to act under a power of attorney.
 - [(k) A] (l) Except as provided in subsection (k) of this section, a conserved person and his agent under a power of attorney shall retain all rights and authority not expressly assigned to the conservator.
 - [(l)] (m) The court shall assign to a conservator appointed under this section only the duties and authority that are the least restrictive means of intervention necessary to meet the needs of the conserved person. The court shall find by clear and convincing evidence that such duties and authority restrict the decision-making authority of the conserved person only to the extent necessary to provide for the personal needs or property management of the conserved person. Such personal needs and property management shall be provided in a manner appropriate to the conserved person. The court shall make a finding of the clear and convincing evidence that supports the need for each duty and authority assigned to the conservator.
 - [(m)] (n) Nothing in this chapter shall impair, limit or diminish a conserved person's right to retain an attorney to represent such person or to seek redress of grievances in any court or administrative agency, including proceedings in the nature of habeas corpus arising out of any limitations imposed on the conserved person by court action taken under this chapter, chapter 319i, chapter 319j or section 45a-242. In any other proceeding in which the conservator has retained counsel for the conserved person, the conserved person may request the Court of Probate to direct the conservator to substitute an attorney chosen by

- 1937 the conserved person.
- Sec. 58. Section 47-5 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 1939 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):
- 1940 (a) All conveyances of land shall be: (1) In writing; (2) if the grantor
- is a natural person, subscribed, with or without a seal, by the grantor
- 1942 with his own hand or with his mark with his name annexed to it or by
- 1943 his [attorney] agent authorized for that purpose by a power executed,
- acknowledged and witnessed in the manner provided for conveyances
- 1945 or, if the grantor is a corporation, limited liability company or
- 1946 partnership, subscribed by a duly authorized person; (3)
- 1947 acknowledged by the grantor, his [attorney] agent or such duly
- authorized person (A) to be his free act and deed, or (B) in any manner
- 1949 permitted under chapter 6 or chapter 8; and (4) attested to by two
- 1950 witnesses with their own hands.
- 1951 (b) A document conveying land shall also include the current
- 1952 mailing address of the grantee.
- 1953 (c) In addition to the requirements of subsection (a) of this section,
- 1954 the execution of a deed or other conveyance of real property pursuant
- 1955 to a power of attorney shall be deemed sufficient if done in
- 1956 substantially the following form:
- 1957 Name of Owner of Record
- 1958 By: (Signature of [Attorney-in-Fact] Agent) L.S.
- 1959 Name of Signatory
- 1960 His/Her [Attorney-in-Fact] Agent
- 1961 (d) Nothing in subsection (c) of this section precludes the use of any
- 1962 other legal form of execution of deed or other conveyance of real
- 1963 property.
- 1964 Sec. 59. Subsection (c) of section 19a-580f of the general statutes is
- 1965 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective

1966 October 1, 2015):

(c) A power of attorney for health care decisions properly executed prior to October 1, 2006, shall have the same power and effect as provided under section 1-55, revision of 1958 revised to January 1, 2015, in effect at the time of its execution.

Sec. 60. Section 45a-582 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):

An interest that exists on October 1, 1981, as to which, if a present interest, the time for delivering a disclaimer under [section 45a-562,] subsections (3) and (35) of section 45a-234, subsections (4) and (19) of section 45a-235, and sections 45a-578 to 45a-584, inclusive, has not expired or, if a future interest, the interest has not become indefeasibly vested or the taker finally ascertained, may be disclaimed within nine months after October 1, 1981.

Sec. 61. Sections 1-42 to 1-56, inclusive, of the general statutes, sections 1-56h to 1-56k, inclusive, of the general statutes and section 45a-562 of the general statutes are repealed. (*Effective October 1, 2015*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:			
	0.1.1.2015	T	
Section 1	October 1, 2015	17b-450	
Sec. 2	October 1, 2015	17b-451(a)	
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2015</i>	53a-119	
Sec. 4	October 1, 2015	53a-123(a)	
Sec. 5	October 1, 2015	New section	
Sec. 6	October 1, 2015	New section	
Sec. 7	October 1, 2015	New section	
Sec. 8	October 1, 2015	New section	
Sec. 9	October 1, 2015	New section	
Sec. 10	October 1, 2015	New section	
Sec. 11	October 1, 2015	New section	
Sec. 12	October 1, 2015	New section	
Sec. 13	October 1, 2015	New section	
Sec. 14	October 1, 2015	New section	

Sec. 15	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 16	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 17	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 18	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 19	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 20	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 21	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 22	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 23	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 24	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 25	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 26	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 27	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 28	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 29	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 30	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 31	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 32	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 33	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 34	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 35	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 36	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 37	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 38	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 39	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 40	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 41	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 42	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 43	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 44	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 45	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 46	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 47	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 48	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 49	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 50	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 51	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 52	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 53	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 54	October 1, 2015	45a-98(a)
Sec. 55	October 1, 2015	45a-175

Sec. 56	October 1, 2015	45a-645(b)
Sec. 57	October 1, 2015	45a-650
Sec. 58	October 1, 2015	47-5
Sec. 59	October 1, 2015	19a-580f(c)
Sec. 60	October 1, 2015	45a-582
Sec. 61	October 1, 2015	Repealer section

Statement of Purpose:

In Section 1(2), "means" was changed to "includes" for internal consistency; in Section 2(a)(21), "licensed and certified as an emergency medical services provider pursuant to chapter 384d" was changed to "licensed or certified as an emergency medical services provider pursuant to chapter 368d or chapter 384d" for accuracy; in Section 5(a), "as defined" was changed to "as such terms are defined" and "victim" was changed to "elderly victim" for clarity; in Section 6, "as amended by this act" was inserted after "general statutes" for clarity; and in section 53, "2014" was changed to "2015" for accuracy and internal consistency.

AGE Joint Favorable Subst.

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 16 \$	FY 17 \$
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Potential	Less than	Less than
	Revenue Gain	5,000	5,000

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill is anticipated to result in a minimal revenue gain of less than \$5,000 by expanding mandatory reporters of elder abuse and expanding larceny in the 2^{nd} degree.

The bill expands mandatory reports of elder abuse to include certain emergency medical service providers and financial institution officers. This provision is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact as there have been no charges filed under the existing mandatory report of elderly abuse statute in the past 10 years.

The bill also expands larceny in the 2nd degree, a class C felony. In FY 14 there were 1,137 total charges of larceny in the 2nd degree, of which 697 charges were dismissed, 421 accepted a plea bargain, and 15 were guilty, which resulted in fine revenue of \$2,500.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

Sources: Judicial Department Offenses and Revenue Database

OLR Bill Analysis sSB 1005

AN ACT PROTECTING ELDERLY CONSUMERS FROM EXPLOITATION AND ADOPTING THE CONNECTICUT UNIFORM POWER OF ATTORNEY ACT.

SUMMARY:

This bill makes a number of changes regarding elder abuse and enacts the Uniform Power of Attorney Act.

Regarding elder abuse, the bill:

- 1. makes certain emergency medical service providers and financial institution officers and employees mandated reporters of elderly abuse, limits which patient advocates are mandated reporters, and expands training requirements for employees of certain entities who care for someone age 60 or older;
- 2. makes it a form of 2nd degree larceny to obtain property by exploiting a victim who is age 60 or older, blind, or physically disabled and allows the court to prohibit the defendant from disposing of property involved in the alleged exploitation;
- 3. prohibits someone convicted of larceny by exploitation from inheriting, receiving insurance benefits, or receiving certain property from a deceased victim;
- 4. gives abused, neglected, or exploited elderly people a civil cause of action against perpetrators; and
- 5. requires the Commission on Aging to study best practices for reporting and identifying elderly abuse, neglect, exploitation, and abandonment.

The bill also enacts the Uniform Power of Attorney Act and repeals

current law governing powers of attorney (POA). Compared to current law, the bill, among other things:

- 1. more extensively covers agents' authority, duties, and liabilities;
- 2. allows a principal to grant an agent authority over more subjects, with more specific powers for agents described under each subject than under current law;
- 3. makes a POA created under its provisions durable, meaning its effectiveness continues when the principal becomes incapacitated, unless the POA expressly states otherwise (currently, for a POA to be durable, it must expressly state that it continues after incapacity and be executed and witnessed like a deed) (§§ 12 & 61);
- 4. authorizes certain people to petition the probate court to review a POA or an agent's conduct;
- 5. requires people to accept POAs in most circumstances, allows people to request information about them, and limits when people can refuse to accept them; and
- 6. provides sample POA forms to implement the bill's provisions (§§ 49 & 50).

The bill gives the probate court power to construe POAs, require agents to account to the court about estates under their control, and provide relief (§ 54).

Finally, the bill makes technical and conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2015

§§ 1-2 — REPORTING ELDER ABUSE

Definitions

The bill changes the definition of exploitation for things such as reporting suspected exploitation, training mandated reporters, and

protective investigations and services the Department of Social Services (DSS) provides.

Currently, elderly exploitation occurs when someone takes advantage of an elderly person whether for monetary, personal, or other benefit, gain, or profit. The bill instead defines it as when a person (1) is in a position of trust and confidence with an elderly person; (2) knowingly uses, controls, or possesses the person's funds, assets, or property or attempts to do so; and (3) intends to temporarily or permanently deprive the person of their use, benefit, or possession. This includes:

- 1. breach of a fiduciary relationship, such as misusing a power of attorney or abusing guardianship or conservatorship;
- 2. unauthorized use of personal assets; or
- 3. misappropriating, misusing, or transferring an elderly person's money from a personal or joint account.

The bill defines a person in a "position of trust and confidence" as someone who (1) knows or should know that the elderly person lacks capacity to consent or deceives the elderly person into consenting, by the nature of their relationship, to exploitation of funds, assets, or property and (2) intends to temporarily or permanently deprive the elderly person of the use, benefit, or possession of funds, assets, or property to benefit someone else.

Mandated Reporters

The law requires certain professionals (mandated reporters) to notify DSS when they reasonably suspect an elderly person (1) has been abused, neglected, abandoned, or exploited or (2) needs protective services. The bill adds as mandated reporters:

1. the following licensed or certified emergency medical service providers: paramedics; emergency medical responders, technicians, advanced technicians, and technician-paramedics;

service instructors; and any of these professionals who are members of a municipal fire department and

 certain financial agents, including officers and employees of banks, savings banks, credit unions, trust companies, savings and loan associations, insurance companies, investment companies, mortgage bankers, trustees, executors, pension or retirement funds, other fiduciaries, and private financial institutions.

To be a mandated reporter, a financial agent must (1) have direct contact with an elderly person within the scope of employment or professional practice and observe or have knowledge of an incident that they believe in good faith appears to be exploitation or (2) review or approve an elderly person's financial documents, records, or transactions and have a reasonable suspicion based on a pattern of withdrawals, transfers, or other activity that exploitation has or may be occurring.

The bill also limits the types of patient advocates who are mandated reporters to those who are professional patients' advocates and excludes Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman representatives.

In addition to those discussed above, the following people are already mandated reporters:

- 1. licensed physicians, surgeons, and practical nurses;
- 2. hospital resident physicians and interns, registered nurses, medical examiners, dentists, optometrists, chiropractors, podiatrists, social workers, pharmacists, psychologists, and physical therapists;
- 3. members of the clergy;
- 4. police officers;
- 5. nursing home administrators, nurses' aides, orderlies, staff

employees, and others paid to care for patients in nursing homes or residential care homes;

6. anyone paid by an institution, organization, agency, or facility to care for an elderly person, including employees of (a) community-based service providers, (b) senior centers, (c) home care and homemaker-companion agencies, (d) adult day care centers, (e) village-model communities, and (f) congregate housing facilities.

Failure to make a report is punishable by a fine of up to \$500. An intentional failure to report is a class C misdemeanor for a first offense (punishable by up to three months in prison, a fine of up to \$500, or both) and a class A misdemeanor for a subsequent offense (punishable by up to one year in prison, a fine of up to \$2,000, or both).

Training

The bill expands the training that institutions, organizations, agencies, and facilities employing individuals to care for someone age 60 or older must provide their employees. The bill requires this training to cover detecting elderly exploitation and abandonment, in addition to the current topics of abuse and neglect and informing employees of their reporting responsibilities.

§§ 3-4 & 6-7 — LARCENY BY EXPLOITATION §§ 3-4 — 2nd Degree Larceny

The bill makes it a form of 2nd degree larceny to obtain property by exploitation, regardless of its value, when the victim is age 60 or older, blind, or physically disabled. This crime is a class C felony punishable by one to 10 years in prison, a fine of up to \$10,000, or both. This penalty already applies when the property involved is obtained from such persons by embezzlement, false pretenses, or false promise.

Under the bill, a person obtains property by exploitation when he or she (1) is in a position of trust and confidence with an elderly person; (2) knowingly uses, controls, or possesses the person's funds, assets, or property or attempts to do so; and (3) intends to temporarily or

permanently deprive the person of their use, benefit, or possession.

By law, larceny generally involves intentionally depriving someone of property or wrongfully appropriating it. Depending on the property's value, the penalty for larceny ranges from a class C misdemeanor (punishable by up to three months in prison, a fine of up to \$500, or both) to a class B felony (punishable by one to 20 years in prison, a fine of up to \$15,000, or both).

§ 6 — Court Order to Protect Funds

During a prosecution for this crime, the bill allows the state to show, by a preponderance of the evidence, that there is probable cause to believe that funds, assets, or property are being used or about to be used in a way that constitutes exploitation. If the state does so, the Superior Court can issue an order prohibiting the defendant from transferring, depleting, alienating, or diminishing the funds, assets, or property. The bill requires service of the order on the defendant and allows the defendant or someone else with an interest, within 30 days of service, to file a motion for release of the property. The court must hold a hearing on a motion within 10 days of its filing.

The court must vacate its order if the larceny charge is dismissed (including when the state declines to prosecute) or the defendant is acquitted.

§ 7 — Inheritance and Estates

The bill prohibits someone convicted of larceny by exploitation from inheriting or receiving part of the estate from the victim. This applies when a conviction as a principal or accessory of the crime is final. The bill also excludes from inheriting or receiving someone who would have been found guilty of the offense, as a principal or accessory, if he or she had survived, as determined by the Superior Court by a preponderance of the evidence in an action brought by an interested person.

The bill prohibits a named beneficiary on an insurance policy or annuity from receiving any benefits if he or she is convicted of larceny

by exploitation against the person who is the subject of the policy or annuity. The bill also allows an interested party to bring a court action to determine by a preponderance of the evidence that a beneficiary who predeceased the interested person would have been found guilty of this crime. If there is neither a conviction or action by an interested party, the bill allows a court to determine, based on the common law including equity, that the person is not entitled to benefits. A person challenging someone else's entitlement to benefits has the burden of proof in one of these proceedings.

When a person is prohibited from inheriting or receiving part of an estate under the bill's provisions, he or she is considered to have predeceased the deceased victim for purposes of determining inheritance and distributing the estate.

Under the bill, an insurance company that makes a payment under a policy's or annuity's terms is not liable for additional payments under the bill's provisions unless, before making the payment, it received a written notice of claim under the bill's provisions at its home office or principal address.

If a person found guilty of this offense owned property with the deceased in joint tenancy with right of survivorship (where two or more people jointly own the property and the survivor takes full ownership), the bill makes the person and the deceased tenants in common (where each owns an interest that can be transferred and the interest does not end when the person dies) when the conviction is final. If real property was jointly owned, the estate fiduciary must record a certified copy of the final conviction on the town land records and any other interested party may do so.

The law contains similar provisions for victims of murder with special circumstances, murder, felony murder, arson murder, 1st degree manslaughter with or without a firearm, or a similar crime in another jurisdiction (CGS § 45a-447).

§ 5 — CIVIL ACTION FOR ABUSED, NEGLECTED, OR EXPLOITED ELDERLY PEOPLE

The bill gives abused, neglected, or exploited elderly people a cause of action against their perpetrators and allows them to recover actual and punitive damages, costs, and reasonable attorney's fees. It allows the following people to bring the suit:

- 1. the elderly person;
- 2. his or her guardian or conservator;
- 3. another person or an organization acting on the elderly person's behalf with consent from the elderly person or his or her guardian or conservator; or
- 4. the personal representative of a deceased elderly victim's estate, regardless of whether the perpetrator caused the death.

The bill allows someone age 65 and older who files one of these suits to ask the court to advance the trial on the docket under a law that gives cases involving people at least age 65 precedence over most other civil actions. The presiding judge can advance the trial after considering the person's age and health.

§ 8 — STUDY ON REPORTING ELDER ABUSE, NEGLECT, EXPLOITATION, AND ABANDONMENT

The bill requires the Commission on Aging to study best practices for reporting and identifying abuse, neglect, exploitation, and abandonment of elderly people, including:

- 1. models nationwide for reporting;
- 2. standardized definitions, measurements, and uniform reporting mechanisms for accurate data collection in Connecticut; and
- 3. methods to promote and coordinate communication about reporting among state and local government entities.

The commission must consult with the Connecticut Elder Justice

Coalition Coordinating Council, DSS, Department on Aging, Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman, and chief state's attorney. It must report the study's results to the Aging Committee by January 1, 2016.

§§ 9-61 — UNIFORM POWER OF ATTORNEY ACT

The bill enacts the Uniform Power of Attorney Act and repeals current law governing POAs, including a statutory POA form, a list of powers the principal can grant an agent in different subjects, and provisions terminating a POA when a conservator of the estate is appointed for a principal who can no longer manage his or her own affairs. Current law allows a principal to grant an agent authority over subjects such as real estate, stocks and bonds, banking transactions, litigation, and personal relationships.

A POA is a document used by a person (the principal) to designate someone (the agent) to make decisions and act on the principal's behalf. POAs generally name the agent and the powers granted to him or her.

§§ 11& 53 — Applicability

The bill applies to all POAs except a:

- 1. POA to the extent it is coupled with an interest in the subject of the power, including a power given to or for a creditor's benefit in a credit transaction;
- 2. POA to make health care decisions;
- 3. proxy or other delegation of voting or management rights relating to an entity; or
- 4. POA created on a government form for a governmental purpose.

It generally applies to (1) POAs regardless of when they were created, (2) judicial proceedings about a POA starting on or after October 1, 2015, and (3) judicial proceedings commenced before that date unless the court finds that applying one of the bill's provisions

substantially interferes with the proceeding or prejudices a party's rights. The bill does not affect an act by an agent under a POA before October 1, 2015.

§§ 13-15 — Validity of a POA

Under the bill, a POA executed in Connecticut before October 1, 2015 is valid if it complies with the legal requirements in place at the time of its execution. A POA executed on or after that date is valid if (1) the principal or someone he or she directs signs the principal's name and dates the document and (2) two people witness it.

Signatures by someone other than the principal must take place in the principal's conscious presence. A signature is presumed genuine if the principal acknowledges it before a person authorized to take acknowledgements, such as a notary.

The bill makes an out-of-state POA valid in Connecticut if, at the time of execution, it complied with the requirements of (1) the jurisdiction where it was created, (2) the jurisdiction indicated in the POA, or (3) federal law if it is a military POA. Under the bill, the law of the jurisdiction where the POA was created or the jurisdiction indicated in the POA determines a POA's meaning and effect.

The bill gives a photocopy or electronic copy of the original POA the same effect as the original unless another statute or the POA provides otherwise.

§§ 16 & 56-57 — Conservators

The bill allows a principal to nominate a conservator of the estate or conservator of a person in a POA. By law, a probate court can appoint a (1) conservator of the estate for someone who is incapable of managing his or her affairs and (2) conservator of the person for someone who is incapable of caring for himself or herself.

If the principal is the subject of a protective proceeding after executing the POA, the bill requires the court to appoint the person most recently nominated as conservator in a POA unless (1) the person

is unwilling or unable to serve or (2) substantial evidence shows he or she should be disqualified.

Unless the POA provides otherwise, the bill suspends a POA when a court appoints a conservator of the estate or another fiduciary to manage some or all of the principal's property. A court appointing a conservator can limit, suspend, or terminate an agent's authority, and the agent retains authority not assigned to the conservator. The court can allow the POA to continue, in which case the agent is accountable to the fiduciary and principal. The court can continue certain provisions of the POA while excluding others. The bill reinstates a suspended POA when the principal regains capacity and the conservatorship ends.

§ 17 — When a POA Becomes Effective

Under the bill, a POA is effective when it is executed unless the POA specifies otherwise.

The principal may, in any POA effective based on a future event or contingency, authorize someone to determine in a record that the event or contingency has occurred. If the contingency is the principal's incapacity, and the POA does not designate anyone to determine the principal's incapacity or the authorized person is unable or unwilling to do so, the bill requires the determination in a record from:

- 1. two independent physicians stating that the principal has a mental, emotional, or physical condition that makes him or her unable to receive and evaluate information or make or communicate decisions or
- 2. a judge or an appropriate government official who states that the principal is missing, detained (including incarcerated), or outside the United States and unable to return.

The bill authorizes a person chosen to determine incapacity in a POA to act as the principal's personal representative under the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and

regulations to access health care information and communicate with health care providers.

The bill provides a sample affidavit form if the POA authorizes someone to determine that an event or contingency occurred.

§§ 18 & 19 — Terminating a POA or Agent's Authority

POA. A POA terminates when the:

- 1. principal dies;
- 2. principal becomes incapacitated, if the POA is not durable;
- 3. principal revokes it;
- 4. POA states that it terminates;
- 5. POA's purpose is accomplished;
- 6. principal revokes the agent's authority or the agent dies, is incapacitated, or resigns, and the POA does not provide for another agent; or
- 7. court decides to terminate the POA in connection with a conservatorship proceeding.

A principal's execution of a subsequent POA does not revoke a previous one unless the new one specifies that it does or states that it revokes all previous POAs.

Agent's Authority. Unless the POA provides otherwise, an agent may exercise his or her authority until the authority terminates regardless of the amount of time since executing the POA.

The bill terminates an agent's authority when the:

- 1. principal revokes the authority;
- 2. court appoints a conservator and chooses to terminate the agent's authority;

- 3. agent dies, resigns, or becomes incapacitated;
- 4. agent is the principal's spouse and an action is filed to dissolve or annul the agent's marriage to the principal or for legal separation (the POA can provide that this provision does not apply); or

5. POA terminates.

Unless the POA provides otherwise, an agent is incapacitated when there is a determination in a record that the agent:

- 1. has a mental, emotional, or physical condition that makes him or her unable to receive and evaluate information or make or communicate decisions, as determined by (a) a judge in a court proceeding, (b) two independent physicians, or (c) a successor agent if the primary agent refuses to be examined by a physician or fails to execute a release of medical information or
- 2. is missing, detained (including in prison), or outside the U.S. and unable to return, as determined by a judge or an appropriate government official.

Binding Actions After Termination. The principal and his or her successors are bound by an agent's actions after an agent's authority or the POA terminates when the agent or other person does not know of the termination and acts in good faith under the POA. This also applies when a POA that is not durable terminates due to the principal's incapacity. But a principal is not bound by acts that are otherwise invalid or unenforceable.

§§ 14, 19-22 & 26 — Agents

§ 19 — Coagents. A POA may designate two or more coagents who can exercise their authority independently, unless the POA provides otherwise. A person who in good faith accepts an acknowledged POA from a coagent without knowing the POA or the agent's authority is void, invalid, or terminated or the agent is

exceeding or improperly using his or her authority, can rely on the POA.

- § 19 —Successor Agents. The POA can also designate successor agents to replace an agent who resigns, dies, is incapacitated, is unqualified, or declines to serve. The POA can grant authority to designate successor agents to (1) an agent or (2) a person designated by name, office, or function. Unless the POA provides otherwise, a successor agent has the same authority as the original agent and cannot act until there are no predecessor agents.
- **§ 20 Compensation.** Unless the POA provides otherwise, an agent is entitled to (1) reimbursement for expenses reasonably incurred on the principal's behalf and (2) reasonable compensation.
- § 21 Accepting Appointments. Unless the POA provides otherwise, a person accepts an appointment as agent if he or she uses the agent's authority, performs the agent's duties, or takes other actions indicating acceptance.
- **§ 22** *Duties*. Regardless of the POA's provisions, an agent who accepts an appointment must act:
 - 1. according to the principal's reasonable expectations, make reasonable efforts to determine them if they are unknown, and otherwise act in the principal's best interest;
 - 2. in good faith; and
 - 3. within the POA's granted authority.

The bill sets additional rules for agents but allows the POA to alter these provisions. Unless the POA provides otherwise, the agent must:

- 1. act loyally for the principal's benefit;
- 2. avoid conflicts of interest that impair the agent's ability to act impartially in the principal's best interest;

3. act with the care, competence, and diligence ordinarily exercised by agents in similar circumstances;

- 4. keep records of receipts, disbursements, and transactions made on the principal's behalf;
- 5. cooperate with someone who has authority to make the principal's health care decisions to carry out the principal's reasonable expectations, if actually known, and otherwise act in the principal's best interest; and
- 6. attempt to preserve the principal's estate plan if the agent actually knows about it and it is consistent with the principal's best interest based on all relevant factors.

For actions regarding the principal's estate, the agent must consider factors including (1) the property's value and nature; (2) the principal's foreseeable obligations and need for maintenance; (3) minimizing taxes; and (4) eligibility for federal or state benefits, programs, or assistance.

- § 22(h) Disclosing Certain Records. Unless the POA provides otherwise, an agent is not required to disclose receipts, disbursements, or transactions unless ordered by a court or requested by:
 - 1. the principal;
 - 2. a guardian, conservator, or other fiduciary acting for the principal;
 - 3. a representative of DSS' Division of Protective Services for the Elderly who has authority to protect the principal's welfare; or
 - 4. the personal representative or successor in interest of the principal's estate after the principal's death.

An agent must (1) comply with a request for these documents within 30 days or (2) explain in a record why he or she needs additional time and comply within 30 days of providing the record.

§ 26 — **Resignation.** Unless the POA provides a different method, an agent may resign by notifying the principal. If the principal is incapacitated, the agent must notify:

- 1. any appointed guardian, conservator of the estate or person, and any coagent or successor agent or
- 2. if none of the above exist, the principal's spouse and children, someone reasonably believed to have sufficient interest in the principal's welfare, or a representative of DSS' Division of Protective Services for the Elderly who has authority to protect the principal's welfare.

§§ 19, 22-23 & 25 — Agent Liability

Protections. The bill protects an agent from liability under certain circumstances. Specifically, he or she is not liable:

- 1. to beneficiaries of an estate plan for failing to preserve it if he or she acts in good faith;
- 2. solely because he or she also benefits from an act or has an interest or conflict about the principal's property or affairs if the agent acts with care, competence, and diligence for the principal's best interest;
- 3. if the principal's property declines in value, unless the agent breached a duty;
- 4. for the acts, errors, or defaults of someone to whom the agent delegates his or her authority or engages on the principal's behalf, if the agent selected and monitored the person using care, competence, and diligence; and
- 5. for the actions of another agent, if he or she did not participate in or conceal the other agent's breach of fiduciary duty, unless the POA provides otherwise.

An agent with knowledge of a breach or an imminent breach must,

unless the POA provides otherwise, notify the principal and take reasonable steps to safeguard an incapacitated principal's interests. An agent who fails to take these actions is liable for reasonably foreseeable damages that could have been avoided by taking the required action.

Special Skills. When determining whether an agent acted appropriately under the circumstances, the bill requires considering an agent's special skills or expertise if he or she was selected as agent because of them or in reliance on the agent's representations about them.

Waiving Liability. The bill makes binding a POA provision relieving an agent of liability for breaching a duty, unless it:

- 1. relates to a breach involving dishonesty, improper motive, or reckless indifference to the POA's purpose or the principal's best interest or
- 2. was included because of an abuse of a confidential or fiduciary relationship with the principal.

Liability to Principal and Successors. An agent who violates the bill's provisions is liable to the principal or his or her successors in interest for:

- 1. an amount required to restore the value of the principal's property to what it would have been if the violation did not occur and
- 2. reasonable attorney's fees and costs paid on the agent's behalf.

§§ 24 & 55 — Petitioning Probate Court to Review POA or Agent's Conduct

The following people may petition the probate court to construe a POA, review an agent's conduct, or obtain relief, such as an accounting:

- 1. the principal or agent;
- 2. a guardian, conservator, or other fiduciary acting for the principal;
- 3. a person authorized to make the principal's health care decisions;
- 4. the principal's spouse, parent, descendant, or caregiver;
- 5. an individual who (a) would qualify as the principal's presumptive heir or (b) demonstrates sufficient interest in the principal's welfare, such as a caregiver;
- 6. a person named as a beneficiary to receive property, a benefit, or a contractual right when the principal dies or a trust beneficiary with a financial interest in the principal's estate;
- 7. a representative of DSS' Division of Protective Services for the Elderly who has authority to protect the principal's welfare; or
- 8. a person asked to accept the POA.

The person must apply to the probate court in the district (1) where the agent has a place of business; (2) where the agent or principal resides; or (3) if the principal is deceased, with jurisdiction over the estate or where the principal resided immediately before death.

The bill requires the probate court to grant the petition if it is filed by the principal, agent, guardian, conservator, or other fiduciary. It may do so for any of the people listed above if (1) the petitioner has sufficient interest to be entitled to relief, (2) there is cause shown for the relief requested, and (3) the petition is not intended to harass. The court must dismiss a petition on the principal's motion unless he or she is incapacitated.

§§ 27 & 28 — Accepting a POA

Acknowledged POA. A person who in good faith accepts an

acknowledged POA may rely on the bill's presumption that the signature on the POA is genuine (see § 13), as long as the person accepting it does not know that the signature is not genuine. Such a person can rely on the POA if he or she does not know that the (1) POA or the agent's authority is void, invalid, or terminated or (2) agent is exceeding or improperly exercising his or her authority.

Requesting Information. A person asked to accept an acknowledged POA may request and rely on:

- 1. an agent's certification under penalty of perjury of any fact concerning the principal, agent, or POA;
- 2. an English translation of any part of the POA in another language; and
- 3. a counsel's opinion regarding any legal matter involving the POA if the reason for the request is put in a record.

The principal must pay the expense of a translation or opinion if the request for one is made within seven days of presenting the POA for acceptance.

Actual Knowledge of Facts Relating to the POA. A person or business entity that conducts activities through an employee does not have actual knowledge of a fact involving the POA, principal, or agent if the employee conducting the activity does not know the fact.

Accepting a POA. A person must either accept an acknowledged POA or request information as described above within seven business days of being presented with the POA. If information is requested, the person must accept the POA within five business days of receiving the response.

No one may require an additional or different POA regarding the same authority in a presented POA.

Refusing a POA. A person may refuse to accept an acknowledged

POA if:

1. he or she cannot engage in a transaction because the principal is not eligible or qualified to engage in the transaction;

- 2. he or she knows that the agent's authority or the POA terminated;
- 3. the transaction would violate state or federal law;
- 4. a request for information as described above was refused;
- 5. he or she has a good faith belief the POA is invalid or the agent lacks authority regarding a particular act, whether or not the person requests or receives additional information through the above process; or
- 6. he or she makes or knows someone has made a report to DSS' Bureau of Aging with a good faith belief that the principal is subject to physical or financial abuse, neglect, exploitation, or abandonment by the agent or someone connected to the agent.

But a probate court or the Superior Court can require a person who refuses to accept an acknowledged POA in violation of the bill to accept it. The court can award reasonable attorney's fees and costs that the prevailing party incurred in the action.

§§ 32-48 — Agent's Powers

If the POA expressly grants authority, and exercising the authority is not prohibited by another agreement or instrument to which the authority or property is subject, such as a trust, an agent may perform the following activities:

- 1. create, change, revoke, or terminate an inter vivos trust (i.e., one created and effective during a person's lifetime);
- 2. make a gift;
- 3. create or change survivorship rights or a beneficiary

designation;

4. delegate authority under the POA;

- 5. waive the principal's right to be a beneficiary of a joint and survivor annuity;
- 6. exercise fiduciary powers that the principal can delegate; or
- 7. disclaim property.

An agent who is not the principal's ancestor, spouse, or descendant may not create an interest in the principal's property in the agent or someone the agent is legally obligated to support. But the bill allows the POA to specify otherwise.

The bill also provides that:

- 1. when authorities granted an agent are similar and overlap, the broadest authority controls;
- 2. an agent can exercise authority over property the principal has when executing the POA or that is acquired later, regardless of which state it is in or whether the POA is executed in Connecticut; and
- 3. an agent's act under a POA binds the principal and his or her successors as if the principal performed the act.

§§ 32-34 — *Incorporating Powers in a POA*. A POA granting an agent authority to do all the acts the principal could do gives the agent the general authority to perform all the functions for the subjects listed below in Table 1, except a grant of authority regarding gifts is subject to the bill's provisions unless the POA provides otherwise.

The bill gives an agent all of the authority described above and in Table 1 below, if the POA refers to general authority and uses the descriptive terms for the subjects or cites the relevant sections of the bill for those subjects. Such a reference regarding a subject or citation

incorporates all of the provisions regarding that subject. The bill allows a principal to modify an authority incorporated by reference.

The bill provides that a POA incorporating the subjects listed in Table 1 by reference or granting an agent authority to do all the acts that the principal could do authorizes the agent, for each subject, to take a number of actions, such as:

- 1. demanding, receiving, or using money to which the principal is entitled;
- 2. entering and changing contracts;
- 3. executing documents;
- 4. seeking court or government assistance;
- 5. paying professionals, such as lawyers and advisors;
- 6. initiating, participating in, and settling legal claims;
- 7. communicating with government officials;
- 8. accessing and making the principal's communications; and
- 9. doing other lawful acts.

But the bill allows the POA to provide otherwise.

§§ 35-48 — Granting Authority by Subject. The bill describes the specific actions an agent can perform when in a POA grants an agent general authority over a subject. But the bill allows a POA to provide otherwise. Table 1 lists each subject covered by the bill and provides examples of the authority the bill gives to an agent under each subject.

Table 1: Agent's Powers Authorized by the Bill, by Subject

Subject (§)	Examples of Agent's Specific Authority Regarding the Subject
Real property (§ 35)	Selling and making certain property transfers, applying for government permits, mortgaging the property and taking other credit-related actions, and using or altering structures

Tangible personal property (§ 36)	Selling and making certain property transfers, granting security interests, and managing the property
Stocks and bonds (§ 37)	Buying and selling stocks and bonds, changing accounts related to them, using them to borrow money, and exercising voting rights
Commodities and options (§ 38)	Buying and selling commodities and options and changing accounts related to them
Banks and financial institutions (§ 39)	Making changes to accounts or contracting for services with these institutions, using safe deposit boxes, borrowing money, and using checks or other forms of payment
Operating an entity or business (§ 40)	Subject to a document or agreement governing an entity or ownership interest: operating or making changes to ownership interests, performing duties or discharging liabilities, exercising rights, taking certain actions when the principal is the sole owner, adding capital to the entity, and taking part in certain transactions
Insurance and annuities (§ 41)	Paying premiums and making changes to insurance contracts and annuities, acquiring loans based on an insurance or annuity contract, exercising elections and investment powers, determining payments from insurance contracts or annuities, and paying related taxes
Estates, trusts, and other beneficial interests (§ 42)	Accepting and disposing of payments from a trust, estate, or beneficial interest; exercising a power of appointment; and transferring securities to the trustee of a revocable trust
Claims and litigation (§ 43)	Asserting claims before courts and administrative agencies, seeking relief and satisfying judgments, accepting service of process, acting for the principal in bankruptcy proceedings, paying judgments, and settling claims
Personal and family maintenance (§ 44)	Acting to maintain the customary standard of living and providing living quarters for the principal and certain others, making support payments required by law or agreement, paying health care expenses, and providing for transportation and other needs and expenses
Benefits from government programs and civil or military service (§ 45)	Making changes regarding the principal's enrollment in benefit programs, making benefit claims, and receiving claim proceeds
Retirement plans (§ 46)	Determining how to receive payments from plans, creating and contributing to plans, making investments, and making decisions regarding assets
Taxes (§ 47)	Preparing and filing income, gift, payroll, and other taxes; paying taxes and claiming refunds; receiving confidential information from taxing authorities; and acting for the principal in all matters before taxing authorities
Gifts (§ 48)	Making gifts with consideration of certain federal tax consequences and consistent with the principal's objectives, if known, or as the agent determines are in the principal's best interest based on certain factors

§§ 29-31 & 51-52 — Other Provisions

Under the bill:

1. the principles of law and equity generally supplement the bill's provisions (§ 29);

- 2. the bill's provisions do not supersede other laws on financial institutions, and other entities and the other laws control if they are inconsistent with the bill (§ 30); and
- 3. the bill's remedies do not limit other rights and remedies under state law (§ 31).

In applying and construing the bill's provisions, consideration must be given to the need to promote uniformity with respect to its subject matter among states that have enacted the uniform provisions (§ 51).

The bill provides that it modifies, limits, and supersedes the federal Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act (E-SIGN). But it does not (1) modify, limit, or supersede E-SIGN's provisions on consumer disclosures (such as when consumers are considered to have consented to electronic disclosures) or (2) authorize electronic delivery of specified notices that are not subject to E-SIGN (§ 52). The bill does not specify how it relates to the Connecticut Uniform Electronic Transactions Act (CUETA) (CGS §§ 1-266 to -286), which also validates the use of electronic records and signatures.

The probate court generally has jurisdiction to construe the meaning and effect of an inter vivos trust if the court could order an accounting. The bill limits this jurisdiction to cases where a trust beneficiary petitions the court for this purpose (§ 54).

BACKGROUND

Related Bill

sSB 706, favorably reported by the Aging Committee, contains similar provisions on mandated reporters of elder abuse.

sSB 896, favorably reported by the Human Services Committee, also changes definitions related to reporting suspected elderly exploitation, training mandated reporters, and protective investigations and DSS

services.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Aging Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Yea 13 Nay 0 (03/05/2015)